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PRIMA'S OFFICIAL EA SPORTS™

FANTASY FOOTBALL

DRAFT GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Fantasy Football 101

Simply put, ***EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football*** is a way for football fans to assemble their "dream team" to play against other fans' teams. Each football player chosen accrues points based on how their real life counterpart performs on the field. Say, for example, you chose LaDainian Tomlinson and Terrel Owens to be on your team—your team will then gain points based on their on-field performance that week.

Typically, participants draft their fantasy players before the NFL season begins and settle on a scoring system for their league—scoring systems vary from league to league. So picking the right combination of players will differ based on your league's scoring system and your personal preference and projections.

Sounds like too much to take on? Don't worry—**Prima's Official *EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football* Draft Guide** is here to ease the pain and initiate you rookies, as well as provide a comprehensive study guide for fantasy football newbies and seasoned veterans alike. So pull up a chair, serve up some chips, and grab the remote because football season is coming up and it waits for no one.

Starting a League

Most important in creating an ***EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football*** league is deciding *who* you will play with. The best thing to do is to find some other football enthusiasts (7–9) and settle on a few things. A new league requires the following:

- **A COMMISSIONER:** This person is in charge of the league. The "commish" sets the rules, scoring system, draft date, number of players, trade deadlines (if any), and various other details pertaining to the league as a whole. This person should be well-versed in how a pigskin season develops. If your league doesn't have a single person that can decide on such matters, then you can make these decisions as a group and then appoint one person to manage the league.

- **A DRAFT DATE:** This date should be convenient to most participants in the league. Typical drafts take anywhere from 1–2 hours, so make sure that you have a few spare hours to dedicate to the draft.

TIP

If some participants cannot make the draft date, then they should create a draft list that places their desired players in numerical order of importance. As the players are chosen, their list dictates which player they will draft in their absence. For example, if Jeff lists Brett Favre as his number one choice and Ahman Green as his second, but Don chooses Brett Favre before it was Jeff's turn to pick, Jeff will then choose Ahman Green by default. This method of absentee drafting can be tricky, so plan carefully if you can't make it to your draft.

- **A SCHEDULE:** The schedule determines which two fantasy football teams will face off from week to week. Some leagues have divisions where you only play in your division, while other leagues may allow for everyone to play against every other team throughout the course of the season.

NOTE

Some leagues (but not many) are not run in traditional "one player versus another" fashion. "Head to head" leagues pit one team versus another with a real win/lose schedule. The points garnered serve as tie breakers in case two teams have the same win/loss ratio. "Points" leagues do not have any teams facing off against each other. Each team accrues points per game, as the name implies, and the lead is determined by which team accrues the most points throughout the season. The kind of league you play in also affects your draft. Plan accordingly.

- **A WEEKLY LINE-UP:** The league commissioner (or the entire league itself) will decide what kind of line-up your team plays from each week. Will you have three wide receivers or two? How many tight end positions will you need to fill? Should you pick more than one running back to fill that two-back slot?

TIP

Keep both your weekly line-up and your league's scoring system in mind when preparing for the draft. For example, if your league is going to be a touchdown-heavy league with two running back slots per team, then find RBs that are more prone to getting touchdowns than heavy yardage.

- **TRANSACTION DEADLINES:** Some leagues won't allow trades after a certain week, but of the ones that do, most will restrict the amount of transactions a participant can make throughout the season. If you can't get that star wide receiver you were eyeing before the draft, and you end up with an extra pick, consider picking up a highly sought-after player for trading early in the season.

Avoiding the Hassle of "noobs"

If you still can't manage to scrounge up a few friends to start a league, browse online. There are hundreds of fantasy football leagues out there waiting to take on new participants. As with most new things you take on, make sure to research and find one that best suits your needs. Public leagues will often host introductory leagues for rookies.

Luckily, many online fantasy football sites are very beginner friendly. Many sites have everything from adjustable scoring system templates to stat trackers—and everything in between. Many even include week-to-week player performance analysis, offer advice on who to play and when, and sometimes give detailed information about how your players perform against their rival team for that week. Unfortunately, a lot of that information usually comes at some additional cost.

Why You Should Use This Guide

Chances are that if you're taking part in ***EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football***, then you're already a Football fan. If so, ***EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football*** not only engrosses you more in Football from week to week, but also helps build upon your Football knowledge.

Most participants tend to gravitate towards a certain NFL team. Playing ***EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football,*** however, will make each and every game throughout the season more interesting. You'll find yourself cheering for that rival NFL team solely because your star running back is playing...even if your star running back is playing against your favorite team.

If your league chooses to do so, there may even be a prize for the league champion at the end of the season, monetary or otherwise. If you *do* manage to round up a few friends to form a league, there is a good chance that it may become a yearly thing. So make sure you're in to win it.

EA's *Madden NFL 06*

So now that you're caught up on fantasy football basics, huddle up with **Prima's Official *EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football* Draft Guide** and **Prima's Official Madden NFL 06 Strategy Guide** and plan out your strategy. Not only does **Prima's Official *EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football* Draft Guide** provide you with all the vital information needed to assemble the best possible team, but this year's Madden guide will also help as a useful reference guide for possible player statistics, as it boasts the most up-to-date stats for all NFL teams and their stars*.

(* All stats and information provided in these guides were compiled before the NFL season started and are current as of printing date.)

NFL 2004-2005 PLAYER STATS

Quarterback sorted by passing touchdowns

Name (Team)	Passing Yards	Yards/Game	Passing TDs	Rushing Yards	Rushing TDs	Interceptions	Fumbles/Fumbles Lost
Manning, Peyton (IND)	4557	284.8	49	38	0	10	5/1
Culpepper, Daunte (MIN)	4717	294.8	39	406	2	11	9/4
McNabb, Donovan (PHI)	3875	258.3	31	220	3	8	8/6
Favre, Brett (GNB)	4088	255.5	30	36	0	17	4/1
Delhomme, Jake (CAR)	3886	242.9	29	71	1	15	12/5
Brady, Tom (NWE)	3692	230.8	28	28	0	14	7/5
Brees, Drew (SDG)	3159	210.6	27	85	2	7	7/2
Green, Trent (KAN)	4591	286.9	27	85	0	17	11/4
Plummer, Jake (DEN)	4089	255.6	27	202	1	20	6/1
Hasselback, Matt (SEA)	3382	241.6	22	90	1	15	5/1
Brooks, Aaron (NOR)	3810	238.1	21	173	4	16	13/2
Collins, Kerry (OAK)	3495	249.6	21	36	0	20	7/3
Bulger, Marc (STL)	3964	283.1	21	89	3	14	5/4
Griese, Brian (TAM)	2632	239.3	20	17	0	12	6/3
Bledsoe, Drew (BUF)	2932	183.3	20	37	0	16	9/5
Harrington, Joey (DET)	3047	190.4	19	175	0	12	6/3
Volek, Billy (TEN)	2486	248.6	18	50	1	10	6/2
Palmer, Carson (CIN)	2897	222.8	18	47	1	18	2/2
Testaverde, Vinny (DAL)	3532	220.8	17	38	1	20	8/4
Roethlisberger, Ben (PIT)	2621	187.2	17	144	1	11	2/2
Carr, David (HOU)	3531	220.7	16	299	0	14	10/2
Pennington, Chad (NYJ)	2673	205.6	16	126	1	9	5/2
Leftwich, Byron (JAC)	2941	210.1	15	148	2	10	5/1
Vick, Michael (ATL)	2313	154.2	14	902	3	12	16/7
Boller, Kyle (BAL)	2559	159.9	13	189	1	11	11/7
McCown, Josh (ARI)	2511	179.4	11	112	2	10	12/5
Feeley, A.J. (MIA)	1893	172.1	11	13	1	15	10/5
Rattay, Tim (SFO)	2169	241.0	10	55	0	10	11/6
Garcia, Jeff (CLE)	1731	157.4	10	169	2	9	9/6
Ramsey, Patrick (WAS)	1665	185.0	10	19	0	11	6/1
McNair, Steve (TEN)	1343	167.9	8	128	1	9	5/3
Fiedler, Jay (MIA)	1186	148.3	7	59	0	8	8/4
Brunell, Mark (WAS)	1194	132.7	7	62	0	6	5/3
Holcomb, Kelly (CLE)	737	184.3	7	-2	0	5	0/0
Manning, Eli (NYG)	1043	115.9	6	35	0	9	3/1
Dorsey, Ken (SFO)	1231	136.8	6	7	0	9	5/3
Warner, Kurt (NYG)	2054	205.4	6	30	1	4	12/4
Kitna, Jon (CIN)	623	155.8	5	42	0	4	2/1
McCown, Luke (CLE)	608	121.6	4	25	0	7	2/0
Hutchinson, Chad (CHI)	903	180.6	4	14	0	3	8/4

Running Back sorted by rushing yards

Name (Team)	Rushes	Rushing Yards	Yards/ Game	Rushing TDs	Receptions	Receiving Yards	Receiving TDs	Fumbles/ Fumbles Lost
Martin, Curtis (NYJ)	371	1697	106.1	12	41	245	2	2/0
Alexander, Shaun (SEA)	353	1696	106.0	16	23	170	4	4/3
Dillon, Corey (NWE)	345	1635	109.0	12	15	103	1	5/4
James, Edgerrin (IND)	334	1548	96.8	9	51	483	0	6/2
Barber, Tiki (NYG)	322	1518	94.9	13	52	578	2	5/2
Johnson, Rudi (CIN)	361	1454	90.9	12	15	84	0	4/4
Tomlinson, LaDainian (SDG)	339	1335	89.0	17	53	441	1	6/2
Portis, Clinton (WAS)	343	1315	87.7	5	40	235	2	5/4
Droughns, Reuben (DEN)	275	1240	77.5	6	32	241	2	5/3
Taylor, Fred (JAC)	260	1224	87.4	2	36	345	1	3/2
Davis, Domanick (HOU)	302	1188	79.2	13	68	588	1	4/4
Green, Ahman (GNB)	259	1163	77.5	7	40	275	1	7/4
Jones, Kevin (DET)	241	1133	75.5	5	28	180	1	2/1
McGahee, Willis (BUF)	284	1128	70.5	13	22	169	0	4/2
Dunn, Warrick (ATL)	265	1106	69.1	9	29	294	0	3/2
McAllister, Deuce (NOR)	269	1074	76.7	9	34	228	0	5/4
Brown, Chris (TEN)	220	1067	97.0	6	20	147	0	6/4
Lewis, Jamal (BAL)	235	1006	83.8	7	10	116	0	2/0
Jones, Thomas (CHI)	240	948	67.7	7	56	427	0	2/1
Bettis, Jerome (PIT)	250	941	62.7	13	6	46	0	1/0
Smith, Emmitt (DAL)	267	937	62.5	9	15	105	0	4/1
Pittman, Michael (TAM)	219	926	71.2	7	41	391	3	6/6
Holmes, Priest (KAN)	196	892	111.5	14	19	187	1	4/2
Staley, Duce (PIT)	192	830	83.0	1	6	55	0	3/2
Barlow, Kevan (SFO)	244	822	54.8	7	35	212	0	2/2
Goings, Nick (CAR)	217	821	51.3	6	45	394	1	1/1
Jones, Julius (DAL)	197	819	102.4	7	17	109	0	3/3
Westbrook, Brian (PHI)	177	812	62.5	3	73	703	6	1/1
Faulk, Marshall (STL)	195	774	55.3	3	50	310	1	2/1
Suggs, Lee (CLE)	199	744	74.4	2	20	178	1	6/3
Taylor, Chester (BAL)	160	714	44.6	2	30	184	0	1/1
Jackson, Steven (STL)	134	673	48.1	4	19	189	0	1/1
Green, William (CLE)	163	585	39.0	2	14	84	0	3/2
Johnson, Larry (KAN)	120	581	58.1	9	22	278	2	0/0
Smith, Onterrio (MIN)	124	544	49.5	2	36	394	2	2/1
Blaylock, Derrick (KAN)	118	539	44.9	8	25	246	1	0/0
Morris, Sammy (MIA)	132	523	40.2	6	22	124	0	1/0
Smith, Antowain (TEN)	137	509	39.2	4	22	169	0	2/1
Duckett, T.J. (ATL)	104	509	39.2	8	3	15	0	2/2
Jordan, LaMont (NYJ)	93	479	29.9	2	15	112	0	0/0
George, Eddie (DAL)	132	432	33.2	4	9	83	0	3/1
Zereoue, Amos (OAK)	112	425	28.3	3	39	284	0	1/1
Levens, Dorsey (PHI)	94	410	27.3	4	9	92	0	0/0
Thomas, Anthony (CHI)	122	404	33.7	2	17	132	0	1/1
Bell, Tatum (DEN)	75	396	28.3	3	5	80	0	1/1
Chatman, Jesse (SDG)	65	392	26.1	3	2	17	0	1/0
Minor, Travis (MIA)	109	388	35.3	3	13	75	0	0/0
Moore, Mewelde (MIN)	65	379	37.9	0	27	238	0	0/0

Running Back sorted by rushing yards (continued)

Name (Team)	Rushes	Rushing Yards	Yards/ Game	Rushing TDs	Receptions	Receiving Yards	Receiving TDs	Fumbles/ Fumbles Lost
Betts, Ladell (WAS)	90	371	23.2	1	15	108	0	0/0
Hicks, Maurice (SFO)	96	362	40.2	2	16	154	0	3/3
Davenport, Najeh (GNB)	71	359	32.6	2	4	33	0	0/0
Wheatley, Tyrone (OAK)	85	327	40.9	4	15	78	0	0/0
Henry, Travis (BUF)	94	326	32.6	0	10	45	0	0/0
Griffin, Quentin (DEN)	85	311	51.8	2	10	68	1	3/3
Wells, Jonathan (HOU)	82	299	18.7	3	11	79	2	1/1
Hambrick, Troy (ARI)	63	283	28.3	1	4	16	1	0/0
Bennett, Michael (MIN)	70	276	25.1	1	21	207	1	1/0
Haynes, Verron (PIT)	55	272	20.9	0	18	142	2	0/0
Bryson, Shawn (DET)	50	264	16.5	0	44	322	0	1/1
Foster, DeShaun (CAR)	59	255	63.8	2	9	76	0	0/0
Faulk, Kevin (NWE)	54	255	23.2	2	26	248	1	1/1
Rhodes, Dominic (IND)	53	254	15.9	1	2	24	0	1/1
Anderson, Richie (DAL)	57	246	20.5	1	26	207	0	1/1
Hoover, Brad (CAR)	68	246	17.6	0	21	161	2	0/0
Stecker, Aaron (NOR)	58	244	15.3	2	29	174	0	1/1
Crockett, Zach (OAK)	48	232	14.5	2	16	87	0	0/0
Alstott, Mike (TAM)	67	230	16.4	2	29	202	0	2/2
Fisher, Tony (GNB)	65	224	14.0	0	38	277	2	0/0
Parker, Willie (PIT)	32	186	23.3	0	3	16	0	0/0
Dayne, Ron (NYG)	52	179	12.8	1	1	7	0	0/0
Pinner, Artose (DET)	57	174	19.3	2	11	72	0	0/0
Toefield, LaBrandon (JAC)	51	169	12.1	0	28	151	1	1/1
Williams, Shaud (BUF)	42	167	41.8	2	3	19	0	0/0
Jones, Greg (JAC)	62	162	10.1	3	3	13	0	1/0
Williams, Moe (MIN)	30	161	11.5	3	21	233	1	0/0

Wide Receiver sorted by receiving yards

Name (Team)	Receptions	Receiving Yards	Yards/Game	Receiving TDs	Fumbles/Fumbles Lost
Muhammad, Muhsin (CAR)	93	1405	87.8	16	3/1
Horn, Joe (NOR)	94	1399	87.4	11	0/0
Walker, Javon (GNB)	89	1382	86.4	12	2/2
Holt, Torry (STL)	94	1372	85.8	10	3/1
Bruce, Isaac (STL)	89	1292	80.8	6	5/4
Johnson, Chad (CIN)	95	1274	79.6	9	1/0
Bennett, Drew (TEN)	80	1247	77.9	11	2/0
Wayne, Reggie (IND)	77	1210	75.6	12	0/0
Driver, Donald (GNB)	84	1208	75.5	9	2/2
Owens, Terrell (PHI)	77	1200	85.7	14	2/1
Jackson, Darrell (SEA)	87	1199	74.9	7	2/1
Clayton, Michael (TAM)	80	1193	74.6	7	0/0
Smith, Jimmy (JAC)	74	1172	73.3	6	2/1
Mason, Derrick (TEN)	96	1168	73.0	7	0/0
Smith, Rod (DEN)	79	1144	71.5	7	1/0
Johnson, Andre (HOU)	79	1142	71.4	6	1/1

Wide Receiver sorted by receiving yards (continued)

Name (Team)	Receptions	Receiving Yards	Yards/Game	Receiving TDs	Fumbles/Fumbles Lost
Harrison, Marvin (IND)	86	1113	69.6	15	1/1
Kennison, Eddie (KAN)	62	1086	77.6	8	1/1
Lelie, Ashley (DEN)	54	1084	67.8	7	0/0
Stokley, Brandon (IND)	68	1077	67.3	10	1/1
Moulds, Eric (BUF)	88	1043	65.2	5	1/1
Burleson, Nate (MIN)	68	1006	62.9	9	0/0
Ward, Hines (PIT)	80	1004	62.8	4	1/0
Porter, Jerry (OAK)	64	998	62.4	9	2/2
Johnson, Keyshawn (DAL)	70	981	61.3	6	1/1
Houshmandzadeh, T.J. (CIN)	73	978	61.1	4	0/0
Coles, Laveranues (WAS)	90	950	59.4	1	1/1
Chambers, Chris (MIA)	69	898	59.9	7	1/1
Givens, David (NWE)	56	874	58.3	3	0/0
Evans, Lee (BUF)	48	843	52.7	9	1/1
Moss, Santana (NYJ)	45	838	55.9	5	1/0
Williams, Roy (DET)	54	817	58.4	8	1/1
Bryant, Antonio (CLE)	58	812	54.1	4	1/1
Northcutt, Dennis (CLE)	55	806	50.4	2	0/0
Patten, David (NWE)	44	800	50.0	7	0/0
Morton, Johnnie (KAN)	55	795	61.2	3	2/1
Fitzgerald, Larry (ARI)	58	780	48.8	8	1/0
McCareins, Justin (NYJ)	56	770	48.1	4	1/0
Moss, Randy (MIN)	49	767	59.0	13	1/1
Stallworth, Donte (NOR)	58	767	47.9	5	0/0
Colbert, Keary (CAR)	47	754	50.3	5	1/1
Toomer, Amani (NYG)	51	747	49.8	0	1/1
Terrell, David (CHI)	42	699	43.7	1	1/1
Burress, Plaxico (PIT)	35	698	63.5	5	1/0
Parker, Eric (SDG)	47	690	46.0	4	1/1
Curry, Ronald (OAK)	50	679	56.6	6	1/0
Pinkston, Todd (PHI)	36	676	42.3	1	0/0
Robinson, Marcus (MIN)	47	657	41.1	8	1/0
Gardner, Rod (WAS)	51	650	40.6	5	0/0
Wilson, Cedrick (SFO)	47	641	42.7	3	0/0
Booker, Marty (MIA)	50	638	42.5	1	0/0
Gaffney, Jabar (HOU)	41	632	39.5	2	1/1
Boldin, Anquan (ARI)	56	623	62.3	1	1/1
Randle El, Antwaan (PIT)	43	601	37.6	3	3/2
Pathon, Jerome (NOR)	34	581	38.7	1	1/1
Price, Peerless (ATL)	45	575	35.9	3	0/0
Lloyd, Brandon (SFO)	43	565	43.5	6	0/0
Gabriel, Doug (OAK)	33	551	34.4	2	0/0
Johnson, Bryant (ARI)	49	537	33.6	1	1/0
Edwards, Troy (JAC)	50	533	33.3	1	3/2
Hakim, Az-Zahir (DET)	31	533	44.4	3	0/0
Engram, Bobby (SEA)	36	499	38.4	2	1/1
Proehl, Ricky (STL)	34	497	31.1	0	0/0
Robinson, Koren (SEA)	31	495	49.5	2	0/0
McDonald, Shaun (STL)	37	494	30.9	3	1/0

Wide Receiver sorted by receiving yards (continued)

Name (Team)	Receptions	Receiving Yards	Yards/Game	Receiving TDs	Fumbles/Fumbles Lost
Wade, Bobby (CHI)	42	481	30.1	0	2/1
Branch, Deion (NWE)	35	454	50.4	4	0/0
Hilliard, Ike (NYG)	49	437	27.3	0	3/1
Rice, Jerry (SEA)	30	429	25.2	3	0/0
Taylor, Travis (BAL)	34	421	42.1	0	1/1
Curtis, Kevin (STL)	32	421	28.1	2	1/1
Galloway, Joey (TAM)	33	416	41.6	5	0/0
Davis, Andre (CLE)	16	416	59.4	2	0/0
Armstrong, Derrick (HOU)	29	415	29.6	1	0/0
Morgan, Quincy (DAL)	31	404	26.9	3	1/1

Tight End sorted by receiving touchdowns

Name (Team)	Receptions	Receiving Yards	Yards/Game	Receiving TDs	Fumbles/Fumbles Lost
Gates, Antonio (SDG)	81	964	64.3	13	0/0
Graham, Daniel (NWE)	30	364	26.0	7	0/0
Gonzalez, Tony (KAN)	102	1258	78.6	7	0/0
Franks, Bubba (GNB)	34	361	10.6	7	0/0
Pollard, Marcus (IND)	29	309	23.8	6	0/0
Shockey, Jeremy (NYG)	61	666	44.4	6	1/0
Witten, Jason (DAL)	87	980	61.3	6	2/1
Crumpler, Alge (ATL)	48	774	55.3	6	1/1
Smith, L.J. (PHI)	34	377	23.6	5	0/0
Heiden, Steve (CLE)	28	287	22.1	5	1/1
Clark, Dallas (IND)	25	423	28.2	5	2/1
Campbell, Mark (BUF)	17	203	16.9	5	1/0
Shea, Aaron (CLE)	26	252	16.8	4	0/0
Wiggins, Jermaine (MIN)	71	705	50.4	4	1/0
McMichael, Randy (MIA)	73	791	49.4	4	2/0
Hape, Patrick (DEN)	8	35	2.2	4	0/0
Baker, Chris (NYJ)	18	182	11.4	4	1/1
Schobel, Matt (CIN)	21	201	12.6	4	1/1
Royal, Robert (WAS)	8	70	5.0	4	0/0
Lewis, Chad (PHI)	29	267	17.8	3	0/0
Kinney, Erron (TEN)	25	193	21.4	3	0/0
Tuman, Jerame (PIT)	9	89	5.6	3	0/0
Heap, Todd (BAL)	27	303	50.5	3	0/0
Dunn, Jason (KAN)	17	120	7.5	3	0/0
Mangum, Kris (CAR)	34	323	21.5	3	0/0
Dilger, Ken (TAM)	39	345	21.6	3	0/0
Stevens, Jeremy (SEA)	31	349	21.8	3	0/0
Euhus, Tim (BUF)	11	98	8.2	2	0/0
Williams, Boo (NOR)	33	362	22.6	2	2/1
Johnson, Eric (SFO)	82	825	51.6	2	1/1
Meier, Shad (TEN)	25	127	9.1	2	1/1
Robinson, Jeff (DAL)	2	2	0.1	2	0/0
Seidman, Mike (CAR)	13	123	7.7	2	0/0
Johnson, Teyo (OAK)	9	131	16.4	2	0/0
Putzier, Jeb (DEN)	36	572	35.8	2	0/0

Tight End sorted by receiving touchdowns (continued)

Name (Team)	Receptions	Receiving Yards	Yards/Game	Receiving TDs	Fumbles/Fumbles Lost
Jolley, Doug (OAK)	27	313	19.6	2	0/0
Jones, Freddie (ARI)	45	426	26.6	2	0/0
Riemersma, Jay (PIT)	7	82	7.5	2	0/0
Fauria, Christian (NWE)	16	195	12.2	2	0/0
Peelle, Justin (SDG)	10	84	5.3	2	1/1

Kicker sorted by field goals made

Name (Team)	Field Goals Made	Field Goal Percentage	Extra Points Made	Points Scored
Vinatieri, Adam (NWE)	31	93.9	48	141
Elam, Jason (DEN)	29	85.3	42	129
Stover, Matt (BAL)	29	90.6	30	117
Reed, Jeff (PIT)	28	84.8	40	124
Akers, David (PHI)	27	84.4	41	122
Graham, Shayne (CIN)	27	87.1	41	122
Janikowski, Sebastian (OAK)	25	89.3	31	106
Longwell, Ryan (GNB)	24	85.7	48	120
Hanson, Jason (DET)	24	85.7	28	100
Scobee, Josh (JAC)	24	77.4	21	93
Lindell, Rian (BUF)	24	85.7	45	117
Dawson, Phil (CLE)	24	82.8	28	100
Brien, Doug (NYJ)	24	82.8	33	105
Brown, Josh (SEA)	23	92.0	40	109
Christie, Steve (NYG)	22	78.6	33	99
Rackers, Neil (ARI)	22	75.9	28	94
Carney, John (NOR)	22	81.5	38	104
Kaeding, Nate (SDG)	20	80.0	54	114
Vanderjagt, Mike (IND)	20	80.0	59	119
Cundiff, Billy (DAL)	20	76.9	31	91
Wilkins, Jeff (STL)	19	79.2	32	89
Kasay, John (CAR)	19	86.4	27	84
Feely, Jay (ATL)	18	78.3	40	94
Peterson, Todd (SFO)	18	81.8	23	77
Andersen, Morten (MIN)	18	81.8	45	99
Tynes, Lawrence (KAN)	17	73.9	58	109
Anderson, Gary (TEN)	17	77.3	37	88
Brown, Kris (HOU)	17	70.8	34	85
Edinger, Paul (CHI)	15	62.5	22	67
Mare, Olindo (MIA)	12	15.0	18	54
Gramatica, Martin (IND)	11	57.9	21	54
Hall, John (WAS)	8	72.7	13	37
Kimrin, Ola (WAS)	6	60.0	6	24
Chandler, Jeff (WAS)	5	62.5	14	29
Taylor, Jay (TAM)	4	80.0	11	23
Gramatica, Bill (MIA)	3	100.0	0	9
Bryant, Matt (IND)	3	75.0	12	21
Elling, Aaron (TEN)	1	50.0	2	5

Defense sorted by yards allowed

Team Name	Points Allowed/Game	Yards Allowed/Game	Rushing Yards/Game	Passing Yards/Game	Interceptions	Forced Fumbles	Defensive Touchdowns	Sacks
Pittsburgh Steelers	15.7	258.4	81.2	177.2	19	16	5	41
Buffalo Bills	17.8	264.3	100.3	164.0	24	20	4	45.0
Washington Redskins	16.6	267.6	81.5	186.1	18	12	1	40.0
Denver Broncos	19.0	278.7	94.5	184.2	12	15	2	38.0
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	19.0	284.5	123.3	161.2	16	14	3	45.0
Baltimore Ravens	16.8	300.2	105.1	195.1	21	16	6	39.0
New York Jets	16.3	304.9	97.9	207.0	19	15	3	37.0
Miami Dolphins	22.1	305.9	143.9	162.0	15	16	1	36.0
New England Patriots	16.3	310.8	98.3	212.5	20	20	4	45.0
Philadelphia Eagles	16.3	319.7	118.9	200.8	17	17	2	47.0
Jacksonville Jaguars	17.5	320.9	111.1	209.8	16	12	0	37.0
Arizona Cardinals	20.1	321.3	131.6	189.8	15	20	2	38.0
New York Giants	21.7	324.2	134.8	189.4	14	18	2	40.0
Atlanta Falcons	21.1	325.4	105.1	220.4	19	18	5	48.0
Cleveland Browns	24.4	325.9	144.6	181.3	15	9	1	32.0
Dallas Cowboys	25.3	330.3	110.3	220.1	13	11	0	33.0
St. Louis Rams	24.5	334.6	136.2	198.4	6	12	3	34.0
San Diego Chargers	19.6	335.0	81.7	253.3	23	11	1	29.0
Cincinnati Bengals	23.3	335.3	128.9	206.4	20	17	5	37.0
Carolina Panthers	21.2	336.4	119.0	217.4	26	19	3	34.0
Chicago Bears	20.7	336.9	128.1	208.8	17	14	6	35.0
Detroit Lions	21.9	337.6	117.9	219.6	14	16	1	38.0
Houston Texans	21.2	341.1	115.2	225.9	22	10	5	24.0
San Francisco 49ers	28.3	342.6	124.7	217.9	9	15	2	29.0
Green Bay Packers	23.8	346.3	117.4	228.9	8	11	5	40.0
Seattle Seahawks	23.3	351.3	126.9	224.4	23	19	3	36.0
Tennessee Titans	27.4	357.8	119.8	237.9	18	10	2	32.0
Minnesota Vikings	24.7	368.9	125.4	243.5	11	16	2	39.0
Indianapolis Colts	21.9	370.6	127.3	243.3	19	25	3	45.0
Oakland Raiders	27.6	371.0	125.8	245.3	9	9	1	25.0
Kansas City Chiefs	27.2	377.3	114.6	262.7	13	13	2	41.0
New Orleans Saints	25.3	383.8	140.8	243.0	13	23	1	37.0

2005-2006 PROJECTIONS

The following are our projections of the top-rated players in their respective positions. The top ten in each field are accompanied by a synopsis as to why these players are the cream of the crop.

Top 20 Quarterbacks

1. **PEYTON MANNING** (Indianapolis)

Having a coach's mentality with great quarterback skills places Peyton number one again this year. Peyton will be hard pressed to compete with his record numbers from last year. However, even if he doesn't reach them, he'll still be our measuring stick for fantasy quarterbacks because no one was even close last year. He sees the game and reads defenses better than any other quarterback in the NFL. He's still anchored by a great line, the versatile Edgerrin James at running back, and amazing receivers in Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne, and Brandon Stokley, all of which caught for over a 1,000+ yards last season. Peyton uses all of his weapons, including third and fourth receiving options, tight ends, and full backs. All of these are good for Peyton's fantasy numbers, but sometimes frustrating for owners of one of his weapons.

2. **DONOVAN MCNABB** (Philadelphia)

This guy is a true "gamer": a term used to describe someone who loves to play the game and lay it all out on the line. He's coming off a year of being the top quarterback at touchdown to interception ratio, which spells big points in fantasy leagues. It is also his second season playing with talented receiver Terrell Owens, who caught 14 TD passes before cutting the season short with an injury. Now healthy, this year could be even better for the dynamic duo, as long as contract negotiations between Owens and the team aren't too distracting. The hidden secret to Donovan's success could be Brian Westbrook, who's coming off a team MVP–type season. Westbrook's a quarterback's dream; he blocks, runs, and catches out of the backfield. The myriad of weapons around Donovan, combined with his talents, should place him in the top three across the board.

3. **DAUNTE CULPEPPER** (Minnesota)

The Vikings may have gotten better after trading Randy Moss. True, his talents won't be recovered, but team chemistry and effort will be greatly increased. To replace Moss, the Vikings selected speed burner Troy Williamson to fill the receiver gap and stretch defenses. And with Moss gone, Nate Burleson will continue to grow into a go-to receiver for Daunte. Weapons around Daunte help his success, but more important is the freedom to open up the offense around the team's best players. A host of diversified running backs helps the team find a weakness in the defense, which enables Daunte to exploit those weaknesses. Look for Daunte to blossom in this new role.

4. **TRENT GREEN** (Kansas City)

Weapons, weapons, weapons, and Dick Vermeil. Those are four things that make Trent a top-5 quarterback in fantasy points. When you've got Priest Holmes playing as running back, Tony Gonzalez as tight end, Eddie Kennison as receiver, and Dick Vermeil coordinating the plays, Trent Green will have to try hard to fail. The veteran players mentioned above have proven their worth, but the key is Vermeil. His offensive system has worked in Philadelphia, St. Louis, and now KC. The Chiefs mix it up so much that Trent Green is usually facing a defense that's off-balanced and scattered. Because he's among the top three in passing yardage and has 27 TD passes, Trent is in the top five again this year.

5. **DREW BREES** (San Diego)

San Diego had two picks in the first round of the draft this year, but both were defensive players. You could argue they wanted to grab a receiver to give Drew Brees another option, but San Diego must have been more than pleased with

their offense's outstanding season. Drew comes off a great breakout year. He ranked second in touchdown-to-interception ratio (27 TDs to 7 Int's) behind Donovan McNabb. That means very good fantasy scoring from your quarterback position despite ranking 15th in passing yards due to LaDainian Tomlinson's consumption of yardage on the ground. However, now that there is no longer a question of who gets the quarterback job in San Diego, you can bet that Brees will have another stellar season with more plays based around his abilities. The Chargers' balanced attack is what gives Drew the time and openings needed to be a successful fantasy quarterback.

6. **BRETT FAVRE** (Green Bay)
Nobody can ever question the heart or ability of this future hall of fame quarterback. With big numbers in yardage and touchdowns, Brett is one of the most consistent high picks in fantasy leagues. However, with all that throwing also come interceptions, which Brett has never shied away from. He's surrounded by a team of talented receivers such as Javon Walker, Donald Driver, and Bubba Franks, as well as a top-flight running back: Ahman Green. Unfortunately, his front 5 lineman have been beat up a bit, causing more pressure on Brett than a 15 year vet should face. No matter the odds, be sure that Brett will have another solid year, especially if this season is his possible swan song.

7. **TOM BRADY** (New England)
The man at the helm of the defending Super Bowl Champions is, often underrated, Tom Brady. With another consistent season of 3,692 yards and 28 touchdown passes, you can be sure that Brady will deliver on a weekly basis. As with many of the top quarterbacks, he has multiple weapons at his disposal and shares the payload equally. Even with running back Corey Dillon's amazing season, receivers David Givens and Deion Branch all saw plenty of action and can expect the same results in the upcoming season. Well rounded, poised, and patient, Tom Brady is a more than worthy fantasy pick that will give you consistent numbers week by week.

8. **AARON BROOKS** (New Orleans)
One of these years you get the feeling Brooks is going to really break out. Until he does, however, he's still not in the top five. He's a little too wild at times, evidenced by his 16 interceptions and 57 percent completion percentage. It's a good thing, however, that completion percentage doesn't count in most fantasy leagues because Brooks more than makes up for it in long touchdown strikes and better-than-average passing yardage. He's moved up the ranks this year because receivers Donte Stallworth and Joe Horn should be healthy, and they're potentially two of the most dangerous wide outs in the league. Brooks was also smiling when the team selected Jammal Brown, left offensive tackle, in their first pick of the draft to protect his blind side. Look for Brooks to only improve on the impressive numbers he put up last season.

9. **MICHAEL VICK** (Atlanta)
The potential and athieticism of Michael Vick is unmatched by anyone in the NFL. He can make plays that nobody thought possible. With that said, he needs to combine his arm, brain, and legs into one offensive weapon. As of now, he's relied on each individually, but this may be the year he's matured into a complete package. If and/or when he does evolve, he'll no doubt be at the top of this list, but otherwise his value can fluctuate depending on whether you play in a yardage or touchdown fantasy league (see Draft Strategy section). Based on last season, he threw for only 2,313 yards and 12 TDs, but rushed for 902 and 3 TDs. The Falcons added vertical speed at the receiver position by selecting Roddy White in the draft, complimenting Peerless Price, Alge Crumpler, and Warrick Dunn as scoring threats. If Vick can utilize these weapons, there will be no stopping him and his fantasy value will soar.

10. **KERRY COLLINS** (Oakland)
Three words: Moss, Porter, Curry. Almost enough said, but with the Raiders addition of Randy Moss, it's unthinkable that Collins' numbers won't drastically increase. He was respectively 13th last year in passing yards without playing a full season, and was in the top ten in touchdowns (21) attributed to one of the deepest receiving corps in the league. His fantasy numbers were hurt, however, by 20 thrown interceptions making him an "average" QB option. You have to figure Moss will snag some of those balls back from DBs, and Jerry Porter will work much harder because of competition. Though, if the

Raiders continue to lack a running game, defenses will scheme on shutting down the passing game. But if the addition of Lamont Jordan (RB) can shore up a rushing threat, Collin's numbers may be closer to the top five.

11. JAKE PLUMMER (Denver)
12. MARC BULGER (St. Louis)
13. MATT HASSLEBACK (Seattle)
14. DAVID CARR (Houston)
15. JAKE DELHOMME (Carolina)
16. BEN ROETHLISBERGER (Pittsburgh)
17. CHAD PENNINGTON (New York Jets)
18. BYRON LEFTWICH (Jacksonville)
19. STEVE MCNAIR (Tennessee)
20. BRIAN GRIESE (Tampa Bay)

Top 30 Wide Recievers

1. MARVIN HARRISON (Indianapolis)

"Marvelous Marvin" is an easy pick because he's a steady producer of fantasy points. Not only would he thrive on any team, but he's got Peyton Manning getting him the ball, and their chemistry is balanced. Speed, great hands, clean route running, smarts, and other offensive threats around him should make this player a top choice for the receiver position.

2. TERRELL OWENS (Philadelphia)

His talent and skill are unmatched, but so is the controversy that follows. The latest in a series of troubled episodes pits him against his quarterback. Luckily, both parties say that all is well now, and if all is well, then Owens deserves either of the top two spots. The guy played a phenomenal game in the playoffs with a healing foot. He's so strong that he's most dangerous after catching the ball. We've all seen him effortlessly shake off a cornerback as he gallops for a touchdown. He will continue to be the first option on virtually every play.

3. RANDY MOSS (Oakland)

Al Davis has always loved the speedy guys. Now he's got one in his prime. With a solid head on his shoulders, Randy could have a huge year. Kerry Collins throws the deep ball as good as anybody and we all know Moss can come down with the ball better than anyone in the league. The talented receiving corps of Jerry Porter and Ronald Curry should give defenses enough to think about, thus freeing up Moss. Moss needed a fresh start to get back to showing his off his talents once more.

4. JOE HORN (New Orleans)

Cell phones aside, this receiver has been one of the best receivers year after year. The only question mark surrounding this year will be how Donte Stallworth affects Horn's opportunities. After last year's fourth-best 94 receptions, more balls will definitely be shared between the two. With a good year out of quarterback Aaron Brooks, Horn will still get his, but maybe not as much as last year. That said, Stallworth may help open things up for Horn because he's mainly a deep threat who can stretch defenses.

5. TORRY HOLT (St. Louis)

Torry Holt is a stud! He's also Marc Bulger's favorite receiving target on an offense that loves to throw the ball. Even when Marshall Faulk was in his prime, there were grumblings in the media that maybe the team threw the ball too much. That's not a bad thing at all for fantasy leagues or anyone with Holt on their squad. Bulger throws a great ball and Holt knows where to be with great route running. He possesses great speed, good hands, and he gets to run on turf for over half his games. Great pick!

6. [illegible] (Cincinnati)
This receiver has scary talent. With poster quarterback Carson Palmer tossing him the rock it's no doubt he'll be looking pretty again this year. The Bengals's offense is starting to blossom with ability at its key positions that may open things up more for Chad. He possesses all the skills you'd want in a receiver; speed, good hands, size, and toughness. If it weren't for a marginal nine touchdowns, Chad would've been a top-five receiver last year. His receptions and yardage will remain high—look for his red-zone touches to go up as well.

7. JAVON WALKER (Green Bay)
It's good to be Brett Favre's favorite receiver, because we know he loves to throw. Brett also trusts his receivers to make plays, which says a lot about Javon's talent and reliability. Javon is a playmaker—not in the sense that he's going to make you miss and outrun you (although he can) but more so as a consistent threat to catch the ball (89 receptions) in big plays. He's in the right spots, makes the clutch grab, and is on the same page with Brett. A combination of 1300+ yards and 12 touchdowns last year is promise for his year to come.

8. REGGIE WAYNE (Indianapolis)
Believe it, there's room for two receivers from Indy on this list. You could argue that Brandon Stokley should make it three, but Reggie is definitely on this list. Reggie's production and involvement in the offense caused the once-reserved Marvin Harrison to speak out about his lack of touches. Though he is very talented, a part of Reggie's success is playing opposite Harrison—having Peyton doesn't hurt either. Anyway you slice it you still end up with a dependable receiver who may be good one week and a player of the week the next.

9. NATE BURLESON (Minnesota)
A statement was made when the Vikings sent Randy Moss packing— "we believe in Nate." Although, they did pick up speed burning receiver Troy Williamson with their first pick in the draft, expect Nate to be the go-to-guy in the Minnesota offense. Daunte will be free to do what he wants, as we saw last season with 68 completions to Nate. Nate is a skilled play making receiver who's at the start of a great career.

10. DONALD DRIVER (Green Bay)
It's unusual to have two receivers from the same team in the top ten, but when an offense is built around a quarterback like Favre, that's what you get. Brett Favre throws the ball a lot, so there are enough receptions to go around. Some might argue that Driver's numbers might increase with the small quarrel between Favre and Javon Walker. Driver's ability is there and Favre is all about letting his receivers make big plays. Should be another good year for Driver.

11. BRANDON STOKLEY (Indianapolis)
12. ISAAC BRUCE (St. Louis)
13. MUHSIN MUHAMMAD (Chicago)
14. DERRICK MASON (Baltimore)
15. DARRELL JACKSON (Seattle)
16. HINES WARD (Pittsburgh)
17. JIMMY SMITH (Jacksonville)
18. EDDIE KENNISON (Kansas City)
19. KEENAN MCCARDELL (San Diego)
20. MICHAEL CLAYTON (Tampa Bay)
21. ROD SMITH (Denver)
22. ANDRE JOHNSON (Houston)
23. ASHLEY LELIE (Denver)
24. ROY WILLIAMS (Detroit)
25. LARRY FITZGERALD (Arizona)
26. LAVERANUES COLES (New York Jets)
27. DREW BENNETT (Tennessee)
28. JERRY PORTER (Oakland)
29. PLAXICO BURRESS (New York Giants)
30. CHRIS CHAMBERS (Miami)

Top 30 Running Backs

1. LADAINIAN TOMLINSON (San Diego)

The cream of the crop! This back truly does it all and does it well. Not yet having the status of the number one running back may be frustrating for "LT," but that's just motivation for him. This is as safe a pick as it gets. He won't get hurt, loves the game, runs hard, runs fast, catches out of the backfield, scores lots of touchdowns...whew, now we know what linebackers feel like chasing this guy around the field. With a whopping 17 rushing touchdowns last year, look for the Chargers to also find him in their red zone passing game. More rushing yards, more receiving yards, more touchdowns, MORE FANTASY POINTS!

2. SHAUN ALEXANDER (Seattle)

It's almost like the Seahawks are afraid to give anyone else the ball in the red zone. Shaun averages 1 touchdown per game over the past 3 years in running alone. It doesn't hurt that he catches another 2-4 each year too. Last year he missed being the league leader in rushing yardage by 1 yard, something that caused some minor concerns of "selfishness" when he spoke about it in the media. Past is past and the lack of receiving production on the "Hawks" gives us confidence that this year he'll bring 16-17 touchdowns and possibly be the league leader in rushing yards.

3. PRIEST HOLMES (Kansas City)

When Priest is healthy, there may not be a better fantasy player in the league. However, some injuries have been slowing his production these past two years. He should bounce back, but because of those injuries, we're skeptical to make him a higher pick until he gets through a year without missing games. If he stays healthy, he'll own your fantasy league, but it's a gamble to think everything is gravy. Which one: tons of points or lots of zeros?

4. TIKI BARBER (New York Giants)

Is this Marshall Faulk behind a Giants jersey? Not yet, but his style is very similar. Tiki possesses both receiving and rushing skills, translating into big fantasy points. When a player touches the ball as much as he does, he's bound to achieve success. That wasn't the case in the past, with Tiki coughing up the football like he had pneumonia, but last year's new style of carrying the ball high on his chest showed his adaptability. That type of evolution transformed his game into a force to be reckoned with and a reward to owners who picked him. Expect continued success for this back in the Big Apple.

5. EDGERRIN JAMES (Indianapolis)

"The Edge" carried a load last year, but probably could've had a few more touchdowns had Peyton Manning not been setting records. We expect the Colts to scheme a little more running in the red zone, because teams will go to school this off-season figuring out the Colts passing attack...at least try to. With that said, there was some tension and rumors about Edgerrin wanting out of Indy; a fit with Miami looked possible until the draft. So, Edgerrin is still the Colts running back, and as they say, "winning cures everything." Look for a few more touchdowns out of him this year.

6. COREY DILLON (New England)

On a true team of unselfish players, this may be the one player that stands out fantasy-wise. He's not selfish, but he gets the ball and he knows what to do with it. He survived seven long years in Cincinnati, showing his worth before deciding he wanted to join a winner. What he may not have anticipated was a career best 1,600+ rushing yards and 12 touchdowns. To make sure he keeps it up the Patriots invested in two offensive linemen with the 1st and 3rd round picks of the draft. Look for more touchdowns and a possible rise to a top five running back.

7. WILLIS MCGAHEE (Buffalo)

McGahee shed any fears about his leg injury coming into the NFL last year. He was in the top ten in carries even though he did not get the starting nod until week five. Since that day he showed the same prowess and toughness he possessed in college. The Bills aren't as strong in the passing game—forcing their hand to run the ball. Expect an increase

in carries, as well as touches around the goal line, leading to more touchdowns. If he's available into the second round of fantasy leagues, he's a steal.

8. **CURTIS MARTIN** (New York Jets)
What a season he had last year! Most fantasy owners passed on this back until their third round. He proved again he's an iron man carrying the ball 371 times for nearly 1700 yards. That's a lot of punishment! However, Martin continues to stay strong in a position that is often plagued with injuries. He averaged over 105 yards per game while running in 12 touchdowns. The offense blossomed around him, but with a healthy Chad Pennington, and Laveranues Coles returning from a tour of duty with Washington, he may not get as many touches. Look for the Jets to pass a little more this year, but Curtis will still get his.

9. **RUDI JOHNSON** (Cincinnati)
This guy is not afraid of the ground and pound approach. Rudi Johnson is only 5'10", but weighs in at a strong 220...run away cornerbacks. He was second in carries last year with 361 touches. His average run was a little low at 4.0 yards per carry, hurting his potential overall yardage. Expect his overall yardage to increase this year while defenses deal with the passing game between Carson Palmer and Chad Johnson.

10. **AHMAN GREEN** (Green Bay)
We'd love to stick this talented back higher, but he just didn't produce fantasy numbers last year. Green had too many fumbles and wasn't as involved in the offense as many had projected. He's still an unbelievable threat due to Green Bay's offensive firepower, his speed, and strong running and catching abilities. Green was banged up a bit last year, so this off-season should've served him well. Look for him to rebound to 2003's numbers—15 TDs and 1,800 yards rushing.

11. **CLINTON PORTIS** (Washington)
12. **JAMAL LEWIS** (Baltimore)
13. **DOMANICK DAVIS** (Houston)
14. **DEUCE MCALLISTER** (New Orleans)
15. **BRIAN WESTBROOK** (Philadelphia)
16. **CHRIS BROWN** (Tennessee)
17. **MICHAEL PITTMAN** (Tampa Bay)
18. **STEVEN JACKSON** (St. Louis)
19. **KEVIN JONES** (Detroit)
20. **JULIUS JONES** (Dallas)
21. **WARRICK DUNN** (Atlanta)
22. **THOMAS JONES** (Chicago)
23. **JEROME BETTIS** (Pittsburgh)
24. **KEVAN BARLOW** (San Francisco)
25. **REUBEN DROUGHNS** (Cleveland)
26. **FRED TAYLOR** (Jacksonville)
27. **RONNIE BROWN** (Miami)
28. **DESHAUN FOSTER** (Carolina)
29. **LAMONT JORDAN** (Oakland)
30. **RICKY WILLIAMS*** (Miami)

*We are aware that Ricky Williams is questionable for the season, however should he suit up he should be considered a Top 30 Runnning Back. Regardless of past issues, you can count on him to post decent numbers.

Top 20 Tight Ends

1. **ANTONIO GATES** (San Diego)
While he's not thrown to as much as some other tight ends, you can't argue with 13 TDs. Only Marvin Harrison, Terrell Owens, and Muhsin Muhammad had more receiving touchdowns last year. When drafting a tight end, first consider touchdowns, unless you're in a yardage league. Typically, tight ends don't produce the same numbers as receivers, so you have to find the ones that score touchdowns, and Antonio Gates is a gem. Thank goodness Drew Brees is still a Charger because that ensures Gates will continue to get the ball.

2. **TONY GONZALEZ** (Kansas City)
Tony Gonzalez is the man! He led the league in receptions (102), was seventh in receiving yards (1,258), and ninth in yards per game (78.6). However, he could've been more productive, with only 7 TDs. Seven touchdowns is nothing to cry about, considering he was second overall in the category amongst tight ends, but he's had years with nine, ten, and eleven touchdowns before. He would be the clear favorite as the top choice for tight ends if it wasn't for the guy above him.

3. **ALGE CRUMPLER** (Atlanta)
Michael Vick is going to have a great season and a large part of his success will involve Alge Crumpler. Whether good or bad for Atlanta, this tight end is their go-to receiver. He had the most receptions, receiving yards, and receiving touchdowns on the team last year. We expect him to be used more. As a big but very athletic player, any team in the league would love to have this guy. He's got the package...hands, quickness, size, and determination.

4. **JASON WITTEN** (Dallas)
Jason was a surprise last year! Halfway through the season all fantasy teams were scrambling to add him to their rosters. Playing in Bill Parcells's system is a plus for any committed tight end; just ask Mark Bavarro and Ben Coates. Jason led the team with a whopping 87 receptions. He also pulled down 6 touchdowns and was second on the team with 980 receiving yards. Look for even better numbers this year.

5. **JEREMY SHOCKEY** (New York Giants)
Jeremy must be an anchor for the young Eli Manning. All great quarterbacks have had great tight ends, and this combination should blossom for the Giants. This incredibly passionate player is always a fan favorite, with his flowing gold locks and colorful personality. It's nice that he loves catching the football and scoring touchdowns too. He led the team last year in receptions, even as they were transitioning between quarterbacks, showing his prowess to get open and be a big target. He's athletic, pretty nimble, and makes the highlight films weekly with great grabs and "run you over" attitude. He could be a top-five tight end when all is said and done this year.

6. **TODD HEAP** (Baltimore)
Unfortunately, this go-to player was injured most of last season, but in the last few games he showed why he's deserving of a top-ten spot within the tight-end position. Baltimore uses Todd not only as a tight end, but also as a receiver in many sets. The more positions he plays on offense the more he gets his glue-like mitts on the ball. They love to throw him the ball in the red zone. Count on good all-around numbers in receptions, yardage, and touchdowns.

7. **ERIC JOHNSON** (San Francisco)
This year's first pick of the draft, Alex Smith, may be the 49ers quarterback of the future, but it's Tim Rattay's team for now. Former Yale receiver Eric Johnson was the favorite target for 49ers quarterback last year. He caught 82 passes for 825 yards; however, he only made it to the end zone twice. With the 49ers struggling to score points last year they might try to find Eric more this year. It's yet to be seen how first-year head coach Mike Nolan will run the offense, but he should take comfort in the sure-handedness of this talented tight end.

8. **RANDY MCMICHAEL** (Miami)
This stud has been increasing his numbers each of the past three years, finishing last year with 73 receptions and 791 yards. He pulled in four touchdowns last year on a squad with little offensive firepower. If Nick Saban can bring his LSU success to Miami and get Ricky Williams to come back, it may open the offense enough to get Randy the ball more often. Tight ends were the standout position last year, with many having career years; that will filter through into this year too. His flipping, scrambling, diving ways make him one of the most flamboyant tight ends in the league.

9. **JERMAINE WIGGINS** (Minnesota)
Jermaine has bounced around the league a bit, having played for three teams in five years. One thing's for sure: he'll be playing in Minnesota another year. He went from averaging 12 catches and 120 yards per season to a very respectable 71 receptions and 705 receiving yards. With Randy Moss vacating the Metrodome, Jermaine will definitely get some looks. Look for an even bigger role in the offense and better fantasy numbers this year.

10. [illegible] (Green Bay)
As long as Brett Favre is around, Bubba Franks will be a valued asset to any fantasy team. Brett loves to spread the pigskin around and Bubba's one of his trusted targets. Bubba doesn't always get the most catches, but look for him in the red zone; he had seven touchdowns last year. He's not the kind of tight end that will score from 20 yards or more, but if the Packers get inside the 10-yard line, look for Bubba to be the target.

11. **DALLAS CLARK** (Indianapolis)
12. **DANIEL GRAHAM** (New England)
13. **FREDDIE JONES** (Arizona)
14. **L.J. SMITH** (Philadelphia)
15. **MARCUS POLLARD** (Detroit)
16. **BOO WILLIAMS** (New Orleans)
17. **DOUG JOLLEY** (New York Jets)
18. **KRIS MANGUM** (Carolina)
19. **KEN DILGER** (Tampa Bay)
20. **JEB PUTZIER** (Denver)

Top 15 Place Kickers

1. **ADAM VINATIERI** (New England)
"Mr. Clutch" has the top field-goal percentage among the best kickers in the league at 93.9 percent. When it comes down to crunch-time he's the guy we want kicking the ball. Out of 12 attempts from 40—49 yards he only missed one. From 40 yards and in he was perfect.

2. **DAVID AKERS** (Philadelphia)
David has one of the strongest legs in the league. On a team that consistently moves the ball down the field, he had more attempts and makes than anyone else between 40—49 yards. He's consistently a top-three kicker in most fantasy leagues.

3. **MIKE VANDERJAGT** (Indianapolis)
Points, points, points! If the Colts didn't score so many touchdowns Mike's numbers could be huge. He kicked 60 extra points last season compared to most kickers attempting 40+ extra points. If any of those Peyton drives stall this year, it'll mean even more points for this consistent kicker.

4. **JASON ELAM** (Denver)
You've gotta love the Mile-High air at Invesco Field. Jason's career has definitely been helped playing home games for the Broncos, but the Broncos have been rewarded by this fantastic kicker. He's not always the most accurate, having a career 79.6 made percentage, but he can kick it from just about anywhere on the field and he led the league in field-goal attempts last year. Over 50 yards...no problem, considering he kicked a record 63-yarder in 1998 and a 50+ yard field goal each year thereafter.

5. **RYAN LONGWELL** (Green Bay)
You'd think that a kicker based out of Green Bay would be challenged by the elements enough to make him inconsistent, but that's not a word commonly associated with Ryan Longwell. Year after year he's in the top tier of kickers in terms of overall points, field goals made, extra points, and leg strength. He's the type of kicker you know will put up points every week.

6. **MATT STOVER** (Baltimore)
Matt has had phenomenal years in the past. Over the last five years he's had over 130 points twice and averaged an 87.4 made percentage, but last year had an amazing 90.6 made percentage. The Ravens don't score as many touchdowns as more prolific offenses around the league, but they do get in scoring position, and Matt is happy to help. As long as the Ravens can get inside the opponent's 40 yard line, Matt will be a productive fantasy kicker.

7. [illegible] (Oakland)
When it comes to leg strength Sebastian may not have any competition. His weakness has been accuracy, noted by his career 80.6 made percentage, and that's with a much improved 89.3 made average from last year. Still, he's only been in the league five years and the coming years should be his best. It's going to help having Randy Moss on the team too; Sebastian could easily out perform this projection.

8. **NATE KAEDING** (San Diego)
Nate was tenth last year in overall points scored by a kicker, but in fantasy leagues he faired much better. The Chargers had confidence enough to give him 5 attempts (most in the league) from beyond 50 yards. In most fantasy leagues there's a bonus for 50+ yard field goals. Given that the Chargers have risen to be a legitimate offensive threat, Nate will continually be in position to score.

9. **SHAYNE GRAHAM** (Cincinnati)
Being that the Bengals's offense is young and talented, we expect good things for Shayne. He'll score a lot this year because the Bengals will move the ball downfield, but might not finish drives with touchdowns like the polished Colts offense. He's a relative newcomer to the list of quality place kickers. This will be his third season with the Bengals, after averaging 87.5 percent kicks made over the past two seasons.

10. **JEFF REED** (Pittsburgh)
Jeff was third in overall points for kickers last year by having the second most attempts at field goals from 30—39 yards and finishing 2/2 from over 50 yards. He had a mediocre 84.8 made percentage last year, but benefited from the second most field goal attempts in the league. As long as Ben Roethlisberger doesn't have a sophomore slump, there is no reason for Jeff to be out of the top ten.

11. **JEFF WILKINS** (St. Louis)
12. **JOHN CARNEY** (New Orleans)
13. **JOSH BROWN** (Seattle)
14. **JASON HANSEN** (Detroit)
15. **PHIL DAWSON** (Cleveland)

Top 20 Defenses

1. **BUFFALO**
The Bills were awesome last year. They were first overall in forced turnovers, second in allowed yards per game, third overall in sacks, eighth in points allowed and scored four touchdowns. Mike Mularkey is infusing the toughness he displayed as a tight end into his defensive squad. And the players love him. Even when he called optional workout sessions, nearly every player would show up. The defensive team will be returning with the likes of Takeo Spikes, Sam Adams, Lawyer Milloy, and Troy Vincent. That's an All-Defensive team right there!

2. **BALTIMORE**
Any defense that has Ray Lewis, Terrell Suggs, Chris McAlister, and Ed Reed is scary. They scored a league-leading five touchdowns off of turnovers last year. They fly around the field like wild dogs...you've heard their team chant and seen Ray's pre-game "dance." Don't forget Brian Billick, he's proven to be a winning defensive-minded coach.

3. **PITTSBURGH**
Another Steel Curtain? Maybe not, but leading the league in allowed yards and points per game was impressive. They were statistically "the best" defense last year, but not the best fantasy defense. The Steelers slacked a bit in creating

turnovers, but they did great finishing seventh overall in total sacks. If the defense was that good last year, there's no reason they wouldn't get a few more turnovers this year.

4. **PHILADELPHIA**
A consistently gritty defense with talent on the line, linebacker, and cornerback positions, this team was second overall in sacks. They also ranked top ten in yards allowed per game, and points allowed per game, but were middle of the pack in creating turnovers. If they can keep getting to the quarterback the turnovers will come.

5. **NEW ENGLAND**
This defense was amazing once again last year, but they'll slip a bit this year. With the loss of Defensive Coordinator Romeo Crennel to the Browns, and the departure of team leader Teddy Bruschi the future of this defense is in the air. There's no way they "D-up" as well as last year, but they're still defending Super Bowl champs. They'll also have enough key players returning to be just fine. We're sure Bill Belichick, whose defensive scheme disrupted the "unstoppable" Colts, will have ways to compensate for any void left by Crennel and Bruschi.

6. **TAMPA BAY**
Once one of the most dominant defenses in the league, they've come down to earth a little. They rank in the bottom half in forcing turnovers, losing a lot of points that they used to rack up. They haven't fallen from the top ten though, because they rank fifth overall in allowed yards per game and ninth overall in points allowed per game. They're also still getting to the quarterback with 45 sacks last season, tying them for third overall.

7. **INDIANAPOLIS**
We know what you're thinking, "The Colts?!"...YES, the Colts! They gave up way too much yardage per game and more points than necessary, but they led the AFC in forced turnovers and were third in sacks. If you had them last year you already know these facts. Teams force the ball around when playing the Colts because they're always behind. Are they the best defense? No. But will they score a lot of fantasy points? With turnovers and sacks, you better believe it!

8. **WASHINGTON**
The team struggled offensively last year giving the defense a chance to show it deserves some respect. They were third in allowed yards per game and fourth in points allowed. However, with those promising stats, they finished in the middle of the pack in forced turnovers and sacks. If they are similar in allowed yards and points per game, look for turnovers and sacks to increase this year.

9. **ATLANTA**
The Falcons were sixth in the NFC in allowed points and yards per game, which isn't great. However, they ranked in the top four in sacks and turnovers. You want your fantasy defense to get turnovers and the Falcons will do that again this year. Look for them to sneak up this list if Jim Mora Jr. gets these guys motivated.

10. **NEW YORK JETS**
J-E-T-S! Jets, Jets, Jets! This is a hard nose defense allowing just over 16 points per game last season ranking fourth best overall in that category. They could've been considered one of the top three defenses if they had increased their sack totals. If they can get to the quarterback more often this year, watch out!

11. **CHICAGO BEARS**
12. **HOUSTON TEXANS**
13. **CAROLINA PANTHERS**
14. **DENVER BRONCOS**
15. **CINCINNATI BENGALS**
16. **JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS**
17. **MINNESOTA VIKINGS**
18. **GREEN BAY PACKERS**
19. **SEATTLE SEAHAWKS**
20. **SAN DIEGO CHARGERS**

SLEEPERS AND KEY EVENTS

Each year there are a number of things to take into consideration as you enter your fantasy draft in addition to player stats. Often, these are important tidbits that took place over the off-season, like key trades that may alter a player's production, or an injury and/or major surgery that took place during the break. These all need to be taken into consideration, as they can greatly affect how a player performs. You wouldn't want to waste a high pick on a lame duck. You all probably remember the guys who selected Mike Vick two years ago not knowing he'd broken his leg during preseason. Pay close attention to the mishaps and trades that take place up till draft day.

Often, trades play a big part in how a player or the players around him perform. Terrell Owens, for example, went to Philadelphia in last year's off-season. Although he put up good numbers in San Francisco and Philly, his presence, and potential threat, freed up RB Brian Westbrook and TE L.J. Smith to have great, breakout seasons. Each year you will find these kind of key trades that can improve a player and/or the players around him. Again, take these things into consideration when entering the draft.

The following are some of the key events and trades that have taken place so far, as well as some of our "sleeper" predictions.

Key Events

- Leading receiver **MUHSIN MUHAMMAD** was picked up by the Chicago Bears. The Bears hope that his presence will break out their passing game and make them a contender in the NFC North.
- One of the two thriving receivers in Pittsburgh, **PLAXICO BURESS**, is now with the New York Giants. Look for him to have plenty of opportunities with sophomore quarterback, Eli Manning.
- In the biggest trade of the year, wide receiver **RANDY MOSS** was traded to the Oakland Raiders to complement potentially one of the best receiving corps in the league.
- Though he had a limited role in Seattle, **JERRY RICE** signed with the Broncos. He will play behind Ashley Lelie and Rod Smith.
- After a stellar break-out season in Denver, RB **RUEBEN DROUGHNS** was traded to the Cleveland Browns to become their featured back.
- After an incredible stint with Peyton Manning and the Colts, TE **MARCUS POLLARD** moved to the NFC North where he will lend Joey Harrington and the Detroit Lions his good blocking and sticky hands.
- Kansas City's lackluster defense underwent some big changes this off-season, including the acquisition of Miami star CB, **PATRICK SURTAIN**. Look for this prime athlete to fuel KC's now-budding defense.
- To help the suffering defense in Minnesota, they landed CB **FRED SMOOT** from Washington to ensure that their defense can begin to play in unison with their offense.
- No longer comfortable with McCown, the Arizona Cardinals picked up veteran QB **KURT WARNER**. Look for him to thrive in the newly charged Arizona offense with young hands, Boldin and Fitzgerald, catching the ball.
- **LAVERNANUES COLES** left Washington and returned to the New York Jets where he made a name for himself earlier in his career. With Pennington back in action, look for this duo to make some big plays.
- QB **DREW BLEDSOE** made the move to Dallas where he is teamed with Keyshawn Johnson. If both of them have seasons reminiscent of their earlier days, the tides can be turning for the Cowboys.

- The Dallas Cowboys roped former Bears RB ANTHONY THOMAS to back up the young Julius Jones, who returns from a breakout season. If A-Train gets to split the time, look for a RB shootout for the starting position in Dallas.

- Receiver IKE HILLIARD left the Giants to make room for Plaxico and moved to Tampa where he can lend his talents alongside Michael Clayton and the talented arm of Brian Griese.

- With all that is happening in Oakland, there is just no more room for TE DOUG JOLLEY. Jolley can now be found in New York with the Jets. Silver and black or green and white, this man can make big plays when called upon.

- Young TE KEVIN WINSLOW JR. tore his ACL while riding a motorcycle in the off season, and broke NFL policy by engaging in dangerous activity. This will most likely set this supposed sensation back yet another season.

- RB JAMAL LEWIS served his off-season prison time and expects to come back with full force for the Ravens come the beginning of the season. He is rumored to be leaner, cut, and ready to make an impact.

Sleeper Picks

Predicting who is going to have a sensational season can be like trying to find water with a divining rod. However, we do have some thoughts on who might be able to perform better than expected and could possible be a great "sleeper" pick late in the draft process.

Pogi's Picks

QUARTERBACK: Joey Harrington (Detroit)
Harrington has improved every year he has been in the league. He has three quality wide receivers with Roy Williams, Charles Rogers, and first round draft pick Mike Williams. Look for Harrington to air it out as long as his receivers stay healthy.

WIDE RECEIVER: Travis Taylor (Minnesota)
Taylor must be overjoyed to work with Daunte Culpepper. With Nate Burleson expecting to be the No. 1 receiver, it's a toss up between Taylor, Marcus Robinson, and first round draft pick Troy Williamson.

RUNNING BACK: Julius Jones (Dallas)
Who would have thought that Jones (broken shoulder, out for two months) would have rushed for 812 yards and have 7 TDs in 7 games last year? He may be small, but his speed and his cutbacks will show you why he belongs in this league.

TIGHT END: Jeb Putzier (Denver)
He had only two TDs last year, but Putzier was third in receptions on the team with 36. Jake Plummer will probably go to him more in the red zone because of good coverage on Rod Smith and Ashley Lelie.

KICKER: Mike Nugent (New York Jets)
Nugent has some big shoes to fill, namely a 20-17 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers last year due to a kicking debacle. With Chad Pennington healthy, receivers Laveranues Coles and Justin McCareins may open it up and give Nugent many opportunities to show his stuff. Did I mention that Curtis Martin may help as well?

DEFENSE: Houston Texans
Ranked 23rd in defense last year, significant moves were made to the Texans' 3-4 defense. Newly acquired CB Philip Buchanon and LB Morlon Greenwood, as well as moving LB Kailee Wong to the inside, are just *some* of the changes. The defensive line of Robaire Smith, Seth Payne, Gary Walker, and newly drafted Travis Johnson should make this defense turn some heads.

TOP PROSPECT: Matt Jones (Jacksonville)
The 6'6", 240 lb quarterback turned wide receiver can run a 4.3 40 yard dash. With his speed and size, it will be difficult for defenses to keep up with him. Jones may be used to look for match-up problems in the middle of the field and he will probably get a lot of jump-ball plays.

Jookie's Picks

QUARTERBACK: Drew Bledsoe (Dallas)
Parcells has a new man to lead his aspiring offense. That man is former Buffalo star Drew Bledsoe. This will be a reunion for Parcells and Bledsoe, as Parcells drafted him when coaching New England. This offense is just waiting to break out with new offensive lineman Marco Rivera, and the proven playmakers, Pro Bowl TE Jason Witten and WR Keyshawn Johnson. Bledsoe and the Cowboys will also finally have a healthy squad in RB Julius Jones, WR Terry Glenn, and WR Dan Campbell. Just wait. The Cowboys will break out.

WIDE RECEIVER: Reche Caldwell (San Diego)
Before Reche was injured, he was San Diego's leading receiver and one of Drew Brees's favorite targets. Now he is back from his injury-plagued season and looking to outshine Keenan McCardell to prove that he is San Diego's number one wide receiver. If he can stay healthy, expect Reche to make some big plays.

RUNNING BACK: LaMont Jordan (Oakland)
Former back-up to Curtis Martin, the 5'10", 230 lb LaMont Jordan was picked up by the Raiders in free agency to provide a ground attack with the highly charged Raiders passing game. Look for LaMont to have a break-out 1000 yard season as the running game is freed up, thanks to a triple threat of wide receivers, Ronald Curry, Jerry Porter, and Randy Moss.

TIGHT END: Matt Schobel (Cincinnati)
While Matt Schobel may not be the first name you think of when you talk about TEs, he provided a lot of support to Cincinnati's offense last season. Now, with a comfortable Carson Palmer to spread the ball around, and sensational yard gainers in Rudi Johnson and Chad Johnson, you can expect Matt to become a larger part of the offense, especially in the red zone. Matt finished last season with 201 yards and 4 touchdowns.

KICKER: Doug Brien (Chicago)
Ok, so this is the guy who cost the Jets the AFC Divisional Playoff game last year with two missed game-winning field goals, and consequently was cut. However, now Doug has something to prove and has already won the starting position in Chicago. With the addition of Muhsin Muhammad and the continued success of Thomas Jones, the Bears will be in scoring position a lot more often.

DEFENSE: Arizona Cardinals
Arizona's defense wasn't horrible last year by any means. Though they did not have a great record, many of their games were decided on a game-ending field goal. The young and enthusiastic bunch is now out with something to prove in a new stadium, uniform, and with a potentially dangerous new offense behind Kurt Warner. Look for this newly charged team to pull some upsets led by this dynamic, young defense.

TOP PROSPECT: WR Troy Williamson (Minnesota)
With Randy Moss out of the picture, it leaves an open spot for a young WR to fill the void. That receiver is South Carolina star, Troy Williamson. He is a proven deep threat and appears as though he can take Randy's position as a speedy wide out that can stretch the defense and come up with big, game-breaking plays. Daunte just might find a passing favorite in this rookie.

Pappa G's Picks

QUARTERBACK: Kerry Collins (Oakland)
Not only does he love to throw down the field, but he also has Moss to aim for now. His touchdowns and yardage should go way up from last year.

WIDE RECEIVER: Steve Smith (Carolina)
Muhsin Muhammad, who was a top three receiver in most leagues last year, is now in Chicago. Where are all the balls going to go now? Steve Smith. John Fox has been quoted saying about his receiver coming back from injury, "He's doing the same acrobatics he did before the injury. Now, it's just getting him back in football shape and getting his conditioning back. But he looked outstanding."

RUNNING BACK: Kevin Jones (Detroit)
Remember this guy at Virginia Tech? He was awesome. He shook off any rookie rust last year and finished the season strong in the last four weeks. Defenses can't key in on the running game with Roy Williams, Charles Rodgers, and Mike Williams as receivers.

[illegible]: Boo Williams (New Orleans)
Aaron Brooks and Boo Williams already have great history together. Maybe this year the team will notice other team success based around their tight end and will utilize Boo more. This team is graced by a lot of talent and I expect to see them spread it around more this year.

KICKER: Jeff Wilkins (St. Louis)
A couple years ago, Jeff was a top three kicker in most fantasy leagues. True, the Rams are a couple years removed from "The Greatest Show on Turf" label, but they have enough weapons to get them in field goal range. Jeff started last year a little rough, but finished strongly. Always keep an eye on dome kickers.

DEFENSE: Kansas City Chiefs
As offensive-minded as they are every year, head coach Dick Vermeil took note that defense is going to be key if they want to win in the playoffs. Gaining Patrick Surtain and Sammy Knight are important off-season acquisitions for building a good defense. Sammy Knight created a league-high 46 turnovers in the past eight seasons and Defensive Coordinator Gunther Cunningham, has been instructing players in mini-camps to "strip" the ball from ball carriers' hands.

TOP PROSPECT: Cedric Benson RB (Chicago)
The Bears' running game has finally regained some respect with Thomas Jones running well last year, but make way for Cedric Benson. He will eventually take over the starting job and he wants to prove himself at the NFL level. He's very similar to Ricky Williams, although don't tell him that because he doesn't want to be associated with Ricky—he sported dreadlocks in the past, attended Texas, and developed a similar running style. Cedric isn't afraid to run over guys, plays with injuries, and has decent speed for his size. This may not be his breakout year, but he's certainly the back of the future for the storied Chicago Bears' running game.

Red Star's Picks

QUARTERBACK: Kurt Warner (Arizona)
I know it is difficult to call a Super Bowl MVP a "sleeper", but let's face it, the past few seasons have *not* been kind to Kurt Warner. After "mentoring" Eli in New York, Warner is ready to take the spotlight once again—this time in Arizona. With weapons like Larry Fitzgerald, Bryant Johnson, and Anquan Boldin, Warner is poised to make a triumphant return to his former MVP glory, or at least become a worthy pickup for later rounds of your draft.

WIDE RECEIVER: Keenan McCardell (San Diego)
I have to admit, I was very disappointed last year to find out that Keenan Mac had held out and made my third round pick useless. However, when the blazing San Diego offense picked him up late in the season, I jumped at the chance to pick him up, only to find out I was too late. This year, I think Keenan Mac will slip through the cracks again and surprise many when he adds to the San Diego offensive set. Playing opposite Antonio Gates, Reche Caldwell, and LaDainian Tomlinson will create a host of opportunities for Keenan to show that he still has what it takes to be a hot pick up well into his mid-thirties.

RUNNING BACK: Steven Jackson (St. Louis)
Having the tutelage of future Hall-of-Famer Marshall Faulk speaks volumes about where this young player is headed. However, having Faulk's support in taking over as the Rams' featured back...well, that's enough to leave most speechless. Last season's numbers were more than impressive for the rookie back. Averaging five yards per carry across 14 games played, three of which he started, and almost 10 yards per reception is enough to get me excited about what he can do his sophomore season. I'm glad I picked him up, so you should consider doing the same!

TIGHT END: Dallas Clark (Indianapolis)
Surprised? I'm not. Given the bevy of offensive weapons at Peyton Manning's disposal, it's no surprise to see Clark ready for a breakout season. Some might argue that Peyton has his hands full with Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne, and Brandon Stokely, but lets face it—Peyton loves throwing touchdowns, no matter *who* catches them. Do the math—now that Marcus Pollard has left the horses to go ride the lions, you're left with one Dallas in Indianapolis ready to take his team to Detroit in 2006. Ok, so maybe he won't *take* them there, but he will definitely put up some points.

: Sebastian Janikowski (Oakland)
Last season, "SeaBass" was a viable pick up because the Raiders were less than likely to score TDs and more likely to settle for field goals. This year, he is behind a newly redefined offense with high power wide receiver, Randy Moss. What does that mean for Janikowski? More opportunities for PATs and much, much more movement up the field, which should result in more field goal attempts. When it comes down to it, he can kick the long ball and still maintain accuracy.

DEFENSE: **Minnesota Vikings**
With this year's additions of Napoleon Dyna...err...Harris, and safety Darren Sharper, the Minnesota Vikings' defense can only improve. Though ranked 29th in the league last season (on paper), don't expect to see them near the bottom of the pack this year. The off-season proved to be kind to the ailing defense. They secured the two aforementioned veterans along with cornerback Fred Smoot and defensive tackle Pat Williams to fill four starting positions. Along with Antoine Winfield, the Minnesota secondary should be in pretty good shape. Let's just hope Daunte and company score often enough to give the defense some time on the field. After all, we need our defenses to score TDs too.

TOP PROSPECT: **Heath Miller TE (Pittsburgh)**
Heath "Big Money" Miller was Pittsburgh's number one choice in this year's draft. Going 30 in the first round kickstarts Miller career with a strong Pittsburgh offense. Across a 39 game span, Miller maintained an average of nearly 12 yards per reception. If he secures a starting position, more likely than not, he is poised to become a rookie sensation right behind "Big Ben."

DRAFT STRATEGY

Draft Strategy

Touchdown Leagues vs. Yardage Leagues

The object of *EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football* is to assemble a team that will whoop on everyone else's team. The team with the most points wins, so finding out what type of league you're playing in is key. There are two fundamental leagues usually played by everyone. In fantasy football terms, the two leagues are either a Touchdown League or Yardage League.

- TOUCHDOWN LEAGUE: Your team compiles points based on the players scoring touchdowns. There are usually two categories for accumulating points: Touchdowns thrown account for 4 points in most leagues, whereas rushing or receiving touchdowns are worth 6 points. Quarterbacks usually score more touchdowns than running backs and receivers, accounting for the scoring discrepancy. In this type of league, it's important to find guys who score often, not necessarily guys who gain a lot of yardage. A great example can be drawn from the Pittsburgh Steelers' running game last year. Duce Staley was the primary running back, racking up yardage to the 5-yard line, but from there Jerome Bettis would take over and score touchdowns with very little yardage. In this league, Jerome Bettis would be the favorable choice.

- YARDAGE LEAGUE: This is a more balanced scoring system using not only touchdowns as points, but also a compilation of yardage totals. Touchdown points are usually similar to that of Touchdown Leagues, except there are often "bonus" points associated with the length of touchdown scored. For example, a 60-yard touchdown may be worth 10 points, whereas a 5-yard touchdown would be worth 6 points. Aside from touchdown points, points are generated from the total yardage thrown, run, or received. For example, some leagues are designed to give rushing and receiving points for every 10 or 20 yards. Each increment of 10 or 20 yards would garner a certain point value. The quarterback position may be similarly scored, except for a larger integer between yardages. For example, most leagues give specified points to a quarter-

back for every 25 to 50 yards thrown. Again, "bonuses" are usually set up in the scoring system to reward players gaining yardage past certain milestones decided on by their league commissioner. In this type of league, look for players who get the ball often. Scoring a lot of touchdowns is always good, but it's equally important to find someone with the possibility of adding "bonuses" to your point totals through compiled yardage.

NOTE

With the flexibility of online leagues, it is possible that your league can be a hybrid of the two major league formats. Speak with your other *EA SPORTS™ Fantasy Football* participants to decide on what league format works best for you.

How to Get Ready

Do your homework and have a game plan on draft day. Most owners have either printouts of complete statistics by key positions, scribbled notes of top ten players at each position, the prior year's fantasy results from another league, or a fantasy football guide book that does the work for them...ehem...a Prima Guide! Whatever strategy you bring, just make sure you have some study materials to thumb through while you're preparing for your next pick. In addition, be fully aware of the opposing owners' draft strategy.

Watching the Opposing Owners

One of the biggest mistakes made by owners is ignoring their counterparts. Most leagues have a draft board or complete the draft online. Either way, it should be possible to view the other owners' picks. Here are two reasons why you should do this:

1. This allows you to take the great players away from your opposition before they can snag these players for themselves. Let's say you have three picks and you select two running backs and one wide receiver, but you still need a quarterback. Your next pick shouldn't necessarily be a quarterback. If the other teams already drafted their quarterback, they're not looking to add a back-up until later in the draft. Most likely they're looking for running backs and receivers. Therefore, your next choice should be another running back, receiver, or the best tight end, kicker, or defense, if still available. Now you've got great players on your team and no other team can pick them. Also, none of the owner's are going to take that quality quarterback still on the board because they've already filled that position. You can then pick up that quarterback slightly later in the draft without losing a prime pick.

2. Another reason is to help you "steal" players that an opposing owner may need. It may not be the most necessary pick for you at the time, but you can always make trades later, and it may give you another option at that position. All in all, don't let choosing your team consume you so much that you fail to see the strengths and weaknesses of other teams. Choosing your players with the other teams in mind may force another team into choosing a weaker player for the needed position. Effective, yes. Dirty, maybe. Illegal, no. Play to win.

Bye Weeks

Don't be that guy! Inevitably there's someone in the draft who picks players of the same position that have the same bye week (see Dannil in the Mock Draft). It's simple; get an NFL schedule with bye weeks and write down a list of weeks with the teams on a bye for that week. If you pick players of the same position with the same bye week, you go into that week either having to dump a player or two that you want to keep in order to get additional players, or playing that week with one or two empty spots. Aim to spread out the bye weeks throughout the year so that you have a full team every week. You could argue that you're playing the most talented team for 16 weeks, but you're giving away one of those weeks when the majority of your team is out. Any bench player should be able to come in during the starter's bye week to get you some points. Don't be stuck scrambling last minute to put a team together when all you needed was a list of teams' bye weeks on a piece of paper for draft day. (See section VII of this guide for the 2005 schedule and list of bye weeks.)

MOCK DRAFT

To illustrate the draft process and to provide some possible draft strategies, we have set up a mock draft. The following is the draft that took place between eight knowledgeable fantasy football veterans.

Mock Draft League Settings

Using an average league scenario, each "coach" picked 15 players: nine players for starter positions and six on the bench. A touchdown heavy league was selected, where all touchdowns count as six points no matter who scores them or the length of touchdown. Also, there are point allotments for the amount of yards a player passes (1pt per 50YDS), receives (1pt per 20YDS), and rushes (1pt per 20YDS). Defense scores are based on points allowed, interceptions, sacks, and fumble recoveries. Points can also be deducted for thrown interceptions.

This is a standard scoring method with online fantasy football leagues.

Team Breakdowns: Each team consists of nine starting positions and six bench players.

Starting Positions	Bench Slots
Quarterback	
Wide Receiver	
Wide Receiver	
Wide Receiver	
Running Back	
Running Back	
Tight end	
Kicker	
Defense	

(See www.primagames.com for complete mock draft rules and scoring breakdown, as well as weekly updates.)

Mock Draft Results

Straws were drawn to randomly determine the drafting order. We chose a standard "snaking" order where the last person gets two picks in a row, sending the drafting in the opposite order that it began. The first person then gets two picks in a row, which sends the order back, and so on. In short, with the exception of the very first pick, the first and last person always had back to back selections.

The draft selections and the order in which each "coach's" team was selected is listed in the following section. Each "coach" also provided a personal synopsis of their draft strategy and results. Finally, the Editor Notes highlight each "coach's" draft strategy and the pros and cons of the resulting team.

Round	Position	Player (Team)	Bye Week
1	RB	LaDainian Tomlinson (SDG)	10
2	QB	Tom Brady (NWE)	7
3	RB	Rudi Johnson (CIN)	10
4	WR	Reggie Wayne (IND)	8
5	WR	Isaac Bruce (STL)	9
6	RB	Reuben Droughns (CLE)	4
7	K	Adam Vinatieri (NEW)	7
8	D	Pittsburgh	4
9	TE	Bubba Franks (GNB)	6
10	WR	Larry Fitzgerald (ARI)	6
11	QB	Jake Plummer (DEN)	9
12	RB	Kevan Barlow (SFO)	6
13	WR	Marcus Robinson (MIN)	5
14	D	Denver	9
15	WR	David Patten (NWE)	7

Pogi

"With the first overall pick of the fantasy draft, one thing was nagging at me as I walked to the board. LT or Peyton Manning? LT baby, LT. Almost 400 touches and 18 touchdowns last year made the choice for me. Then the waiting game started and 14 picks later I took Tom Brady. I was thinking of consistency and he threw for at least one touchdown in 15 of the 16 games last year. Jake Plummer is my backup QB and should come off the bench nicely. Rudi Johnson was my next RB with his 90.9 YDS a game and 12 TDs. Johnson and LT have the same bye week in Week 10 so I am praying that Rueben Droughns and Kevan Barlow can pick up the slack. My receivers, consisting of Reggie Wayne, Isaac Bruce, Larry Fitzgerald, Marcus Robinson, and David Patten, give me a solid group of pass catchers, with 315 catches and 41 TDs among them. I took one TE, Bubba Franks, and if Brett Favre continues to be...well, Brett Favre, Bubba should have his fair share of TDs. Adam Vinatieri was money last

year with 31 FGM with 11 of those between 40-49 yards. Heck, he even threw a touchdown! As for my defense, Pittsburgh's defense was a big reason the Steelers finished the regular season at 15-1. They were first in least amount of points per game, least yards per game, and had five TDs. As you can tell, I am kind of a stats guy. Fantasy football is a game of numbers and opportunity, and I feel that my team will do what it does best: score."

Editor Notes: Pogi took advantage of the first draft slot nicely. He secured the top-ranked, best available players in all his starting positions first, worrying about back-up positions for later in the draft. This secured him top players in all the starting positions, including kickers and defense, while other coaches were still gobbling up receivers and running backs.

Round	Position	Player (Team)	Bye Week
1	QB	Peyton Manning (IND)	8
2	WR	Randy Moss (OAK)	5
3	RB	Willis McGahee (BUF)	9
4	WR	Nate Burleson (MIN)	5
5	RB	Brian Westbrook (PHI)	6
6	WR	Andre Johnson (HOU)	3
7	WR	Rod Smith (DEN)	9
8	TE	Jason Witten (DAL)	9
9	QB	Aaron Brooks (NOR)	10
10	D	Tampa Bay	7
11	RB	LaMont Jordan (OAK)	5
12	WR	Keyshawn Johnson (DAL)	9
13	RB	Fred Taylor (JAC)	7
14	WR	Chris Chambers (MIA)	4
15	K	Jeff Reed (PIT)	4

Jookie

"My plan going into the draft was to quickly secure top players in the QB, RB, and WR positions. These positions are responsible for the most fantasy points, and if I was able to grab some top scorers, I could afford to take average stars in the TE, K, and Defense positions. Drafting second, I knew I would take P. Manning or LT first depending on who was selected first, so Pogi made my decision for me. With my quarterback slot taken care of, I wanted to grab a top receiver and RB with my second and third pick. From there, I simply wanted the best available WRs and RBs (based on potential and last year's stats) to fill my starting slots, until I noticed that others were swooping up TEs—that is when I picked up Witten, Brooks for a back-up QB, and a defense. I chose to take a kicker last, knowing that no coach would take a back-up kicker so I guaranteed a top-10 player for that position."

Editor Notes: Jookie did well at taking a top player from each of the major scoring fields with his first three picks. He followed that trend of receivers and running backs throughout his draft, even compensating for two of his receivers sharing the same bye week by selecting two backup receivers. He does not, however, have a backup for his tight end, kicker, or defense, so he will have to make some changes when those players have bye weeks.

Red Star

"As draft day approached, I had my perfect draft in mind. Then, I watched the number one running back go first and the number one quarterback go second. Immediately I panicked and thought 'I *have* to take the number one wide receiver!' So I did. While I *could* have made a top choice out of Shaun Alexander or Priest Holmes, I chose to pick up a WR that would definitely score TDs—Marvin Harrison. For my second pick, I didn't see much of a reason to stray from my plan, so I picked up Terrell Owens. With my remaining picks I decided to focus on top-ranked players rather than scour the dwindling pool of RBs. I figured I could build a solid receiving corps, adding number one TE, Antonio Gates, to my roster, and possibly pick up a few decent RBs as they remained available. Rising star Drew Brees filled my empty QB slot nicely. Half way through the draft I

Round	Position	Player (Team)	Bye Week
1	WR	Marvin Harrison (IND)	8
2	WR	Terrel Owens (PHI)	6
3	TE	Antonio Gates (SDG)	10
4	QB	Drew Brees (SDG)	10
5	RB	Clinton Portis (WAS)	3
6	RB	Michael Pittman (TAM)	7
7	TE	Alge Crumpler (ATL)	8
8	D	New England	7
9	WR	Jimmy Smith (JAC)	7
10	K	Matt Stover (BAL)	3
11	RB	Steven Jackson (STL)	9
12	RB	Warrick Dunn (ATL)	8
13	QB	Ben Roethlisberger (PIT)	4
14	WR	Keenan McCardell (SDG)	10
15	QB	Steve McNair (TEN)	10

noticed that the top-three TE, Alge Crumpler, was still available, and I saw a chance to pick him up as a trading commodity, possibly fixing my lack-luster RB situation as the season progresses. Once it was all said and done, I saw no reason to shy away from my picks. A lot changes once the season starts, and I feel comfortable enough in my team to change along with it. In short, the rest of the league will fear me by week three."

Editor Notes: Most coaches like to pick a top-ranked, scoring running back early in the draft, but Red Star had an opportunity to take the top two receivers and a leading tight end in his first three picks, and took it. While this is not necessarily traditional, taking three big receiving scorers could prove to be very effective and dangerous to other coaches if those players perform like they did last year. On the downside, this puts a lot of weight on his receivers to carry his team with middle of the road running backs providing support. However, Red Star did snatch three top quarterbacks and a great back-up tight end, so he should have plenty of opportunity to trade up as the season begins.

Round	Position	Player (Team)	Bye Week
1	RB	Shaun Alexander (SEA)	8
2	RB	Edgerrin James (IND)	8
3	RB	Deuce McAllister (NOR)	10
4	RB	Domanick Davis (HOU)	3
5	QB	Michael Vick (ATL)	8
6	QB	Brett Favre (GNB)	6
7	WR	Hines Ward (PIT)	4
8	QB	Kerry Collins (OAK)	5
9	WR	Darrell Jackson (SEA)	8
10	WR	Michael Clayton (TAM)	7
11	RB	Julius Jones (DAL)	9
12	WR	Plaxico Burress (NYG)	5
13	D	Atlanta	8
14	K	Ryan Longwell (GNB)	6
15	TE	Dallas Clark (IND)	8

Dannil

"I was surprised to see Shaun Alexander still available in the fourth position, but that began a trend I would see through the rest of the draft. I had James, McAllister, and Davis respectively ranked fifth, sixth, and seventh overall, so by snatching them up in the second, third, and fourth round, I was absolutely sure my cadre of RBs was as good as anyone's. By the time round five came around, there were still quite a few good QBs on the board. Even though his numbers weren't that good last year, I took a chance with Vick and backed him up with Favre and Collins (my sleeper QB of the draft). While I admit that my WRs aren't as strong as they could be, I got four solid starters, and I expect to pick up one or two more in waivers or trades. Ward and Jackson were particularly great mid-to-late round picks. I deliberately chose my defense, K, and TE last; I knew that the best picks in these positions would be chosen way too early to get any real value, and the difference between the 5th and 10th best in each of these spots was minimal. Overall, I got 7 of my top 25 ranked players, including 3 of my top 5 RBs."

Editor Notes: Dannil scooped up two elite running backs with his first two drafts, and grabbed two more with his fourth and fifth picks. With only two starting running backs per week, selecting four off the bat could prove dangerous, but this gives Dannil some prime trading material down the road. And he will have to trade, having six starting players on bye in week eight. He also has three quarterbacks that can go on scoring frenzies, giving him plenty of options week to week as well as more trading collateral for a stronger receiving corps.

Feo

"Pick number five is right in the middle of the pack and not the place I wanted to be, though I feel I made out pretty well. Culpepper was my first pick even though McNabb was still available. I believe with Randy Moss gone, Minnesota can refocus, giving Daunte good opportunities to score. Curtis Martin was a no-brainer for my number two pick as last year's leading rusher is nothing to sneeze at. Ahman Green, who's good for at least one TD every other week, was a great pick-up for my next RB. Chad Johnson seemed like a wise pick for my first WR. Most years I get hosed on WRs, so I made sure to choose a good one early this season. I followed with Bennett who had some HUGE games last year. And can you believe that the league's top receiver was still available in the sixth round? True, Muhammad has been traded to Chicago, but the guy scored 16 TDs last year. Bear or not, I couldn't let Muhsin sit for another round. Todd Heap, back from and injury-shortened season, should be a good TE to play every week. I picked up Akers at this point before the

Round	Position	Player (Team)	Bye Week
1	QB	Daunte Culpepper (MIN)	5
2	RB	Curtis Martin (NYJ)	8
3	RB	Ahman Green (GNB)	6
4	WR	Chad Johnson (CIN)	10
5	WR	Drew Bennett (TEN)	10
6	WR	Muhsin Muhammad (CHI)	4
7	TE	Todd Heap (BAL)	3
8	K	David Akers (PHI)	6
9	QB	Chad Pennington (NYJ)	8
10	WR	Eddie Kennison (KAN)	5
11	D	New York Jets	8
12	RB	Nick Goings (CAR)	7
13	WR	T.J. Houshmandzadeh (CIN)	10
14	TE	Randy McMichael (MIA)	4
15	WR	Todd Pinkston (PHI)	6

kickin' pickins' got slim. Next, I looked for good players to fill my bench, and Pennington was a great backup QB to get at this point (if he can avoid injury this season). As I mentioned before, I always have trouble with WRs, so I picked up Kennison, Houshmandzadeh, and Pinkston to round out my receiving posse. All three have great potential to score when their number is called. Admittedly a gamble as backup RB, I selected Nick Goings—he shined at the end of last season but may not be a wise choice if Stephen Davis is back at full speed for Carolina. And Randy McMichael was probably the only good thing about the Dolphins last year and makes a great backup TE when needed. As you can see, pick number five yielded me a good, balanced team."

Editor Notes: *Feo faired well at the number five spot in the draft. There is something to be said about filling your starting roster with top-ranked scorers instead of collecting an excess of big names for positions that have already been filled in hopes of later trades. Feo did just that by grabbing proven, reliable players in all the major scoring positions (quarterback, wide receiver, running back, tight end, and kicker) with his first eight picks before going back for seconds—one of only two coaches to do so. On the flip side, this puts a lot of faith on your starting squad—if they falter or get injured, it could spell a long season.*

Pappa G

Round	Position	Player (Team)	Bye Week
1	QB	Donovan McNabb (PHI)	6
2	RB	Tiki Barber (NYG)	5
3	TE	Tony Gonzalez (KAN)	5
4	RB	Jamal Lewis (BAL)	3
5	WR	Derrick Mason (BAL)	10
6	WR	Joey Porter (OAK)	5
7	RB	Chris Brown (TEN)	10
8	D	Buffalo	9
9	WR	Laveranues Coles (NYJ)	8
10	RB	Ricky Williams (N/A)	N/A
11	WR	Anquan Boldin (ARI)	6
12	TE	Jermaine Wiggins (MIN)	5
13	WR	Steve Smith (CAR)	7
14	K	Shayne Graham (CIN)	10
15	WR	Dante Stallworth (NOR)	10

"Being that we're in a touchdown heavy league (all touchdowns worth the same point value), I thought it was very important to get a QB early. I was the sixth pick in the draft with Manning and Culpepper selected in front of me, so I went with arguably the second best QB in the league, Donovan McNabb. My next focus was to fill the starting RB positions with TD-heavy guys, thus, I grabbed Barber and Lewis with my second and fourth picks. The icing was the stud TE, Tony Gonzalez, drafted as the third pick for his obvious involvement in one of the most explosive offenses in the league. Once the key positions were filled, I looked to solidify the receivers. I usually pick them up later because there are so many talented receivers and only a couple of them ever have amazing years compared to the high-powered QBs and RBs. A late pick that I'm very proud of is the eleventh round selection of Anquan Boldin, who's back from injury and has Kurt Warner throwing to him this year."

Editors Notes: *Pappa G was able to secure one of the top quarterbacks at the sixth position to begin a really well drafted team. He solidified his quarterback, running back, and tight end positions early with his first four picks, focusing on grabbing elite players in their positions, and used his middle picks to grab wide receivers in the top-20 rather than jockey for names in the top-10. This may prove a great strategy as there are far more playmaking receivers than running backs. Four of his starters, though, share the same bye week, including both his tight ends. Pappa G will have to make some changes come week five or hope his running backs can make up for his absent tight end position.*

Round	Position	Player (Team)	Bye Week
1	RB	Priest Holmes (KAN)	5
2	QB	Joey Harrington (DET)	3
3	WR	Torry Holt (STL)	9
4	WR	Javon Walker (GNB)	6
5	WR	Roy Williams (DET)	3
6	TE	Jeremy Shockey (NYG)	5
7	RB	Tatum Bell (DEN)	9
8	K	Mike Vanderjagt (IND)	8
9	D	Baltimore	3
10	RB	Stephen Davis (CAR)	7
11	QB	Carson Palmer (CIN)	10
12	K	Sebastian Janikowski (OAK)	5
13	TE	David Graham (NWE)	7
14	WR	Deion Branch (NWE)	7
15	D	Oakland	5

Macster

"Picking number seven out of eight can have it's advantages, with being able to pick almost twice in a row. I used my first pick to select running back sensation, Priest Holmes. My second pick surprised all, but I believe Harrington has a lot of potential this season. Carson Palmer also shows promise as a young QB, so if Harrington fails to produce, I have P to fall back on. I feel I came out of the draft with a solid receiving corps of Holt, Walker, and Williams, with a good one-game back-up in Deion Branch, who last year had several big days. Tatum Bell has potential to be a good second RB, and with a sleeper in Stephen Davis on the bench, I think my running game will be decent. I'm hoping Jeremy Shockey bounces back this year with Eli Manning now having a year of experience under his belt. Mike Vanderjaqt is always a solid pick as he doesn't miss much, although if Peyton Manning has another great year, his attempts will be mostly point-afters. I took Baltimore as my main defense, for they are fairly decent every year, and I picked my Oakland Raiders defense as a back-up, more out of loyalty than anything."

Editor Notes: The only coach to pick all of the starting positions with his first nine selections, Macster secured a top running back first, followed by his quarterback of choice. He then selected three choice receivers and a tight end before taking a second running back. When most coaches fight to grab top running backs early, Macster nabbed one of the best off the bat and turned his attention to his receiving corps. This also allowed him top picks in tight ends, kickers, and defenses while some others were still selecting running backs and receivers. The downside to putting so much trust in your starting nine is the limited, middle of the road backup players available toward the end of the draft, giving little room for error from the major scoring positions.

The Gimp

Round	Position	Player (Team)	Bye Week
1	RB	Corey Dillon (NEW)	7
2	QB	Trent Green (KAN)	5
3	WR	Joe Horn (NOR)	10
4	RB	Jerome Bettis (PIT)	4
5	WR	Brandon Stokley (IND)	8
6	WR	Donald Driver (GNB)	6
7	TE	Marcus Pollard (DET)	8
8	K	Jason Elam (DEN)	9
9	D	Philadelphia	6
10	WR	Ashley Lelie (DEN)	9
11	QB	Marc Bulger (STL)	9
12	TE	Eric Johnson (SFO)	6
13	RB	Ronnie Brown (MIA)	4
14	D	Washington	3
15	WR	Antwaan Randle El (PIT)	4

"Picking eighth of eight may sound like a bum deal but using the wrap around system meant I got picks eight *and* nine, so it wasn't so bad. I wanted to get my QB and RB out of the way early, so I went with Trent Green and Corey Dillon—two veterans who I consider solid performers. With my next two picks I chose Joe Horn, a solid receiver in a pass-happy offense, and Jerome Bettis. This may seem like an early spot for the Bus, but our league puts a premium on TDs, and although Bettis may not crank out the yardage like he used to, he definitely has a nose for the end zone. For the rest of my picks, and overall, my strategy was to be conservative, stick with proven performers, and not be swayed by players who had a breakout season last year. I kept an eye on the bye weeks, trying not to have more than two starters ever out in one week and never two in the same position out in the same week. I only took one rookie, Ronnie Brown, but he will be competing for the number one spot, so I felt like it was a risk worth taking. On the whole I'm pretty happy with my team; now all I can do is sit back and hope everyone performs well and stays healthy."

Editor Notes: In most drafts, the last position usually gets back to back picks. In this case, The Gimp drafted well in the final slot, using his first two picks for a top running back and quarterback. Like a few of the other coaches, Gimp quickly took a top-ranked player from the big three (quarterback, running back, and wide receiver) to ensure a constant, week to week scoring threat from these positions. With an elite player in these fields, the remaining starting positions could be filled with the best available player to round out the team. The Gimp's only real downfall could be his backup running back should his rookie selection not get the starting nod.

MOCK DRAFT BOARD

	1. Pogi	2. Jookie	3. Red Star	4. Dannil	5. Feo	6. Pappa G	7. Macster	8. The Gimp
Round 1	L. Tomlinson (SDG)	P. Manning (IND)	M. Harrison (IND)	S. Alexander (SEA)	D. Culpepper (MIN)	D. McNabb (PHI)	P. Holmes (KAN)	C. Dillon (NWE)
Round 2	T. Brady (NWE)	R. Moss (OAK)	T. Owens (PHI)	E. James (IND)	C. Martin (NYJ)	T. Barber (NYG)	J. Harrington (DET)	T. Green (KAN)
Round 3	R. Johnson (CIN)	W. McGahee (BUF)	A. Gates (SDG)	D. McAllister (NOR)	A. Green (GNB)	T. Gonzalez (KAN)	T. Holt (STL)	J. Horn (NOR)
Round 4	R. Wayne (IND)	N. Burleson (MIN)	D. Brees (SDG)	D. Davis (HOU)	C. Johnson (CIN)	J. Lewis (BAL)	J. Walker (GNB)	J. Bettis (PIT)
Round 5	I. Bruce (STL)	B. Westbrook (PHI)	C. Portis (WAS)	M. Vick (ATL)	D. Bennett (TEN)	D. Mason (BAL)	R. Williams (DET)	B. Stokley (IND)
Round 6	R. Droughns (CLE)	A. Johnson (HOU)	M. Pittman (TAM)	B. Favre (GNB)	M. Muhammad (CHI)	J. Porter (OAK)	J. Shockey (NYG)	D. Driver (GNB)
Round 7	A. Vinatieri (NWE)	R. Smith (DEN)	A. Crumpler (ATL)	H. Ward (PIT)	T. Heap (BAL)	C. Brown (TEN)	T. Bell (DEN)	M. Pollard (DET)
Round 8	Pittsburgh	J. Witten (DAL)	New England	K. Collins (OAK)	D. Akers (PHI)	Buffalo	M. Vanderjagt (IND)	J. Elam (DEN)
Round 9	B. Franks (GNB)	A. Brooks (NOR)	J. Smith (JAC)	D. Jackson (SEA)	C. Pennington (NYJ)	L. Coles (NYJ)	Baltimore	Philadelphia
Round 10	L. Fitzgerald (ARI)	Tampa Bay	M. Stover (BAL)	M. Clayton (TAM)	E. Kennison (KAN)	R. Williams (MIA)	S. Davis (CAR)	A. Lelie (DEN)
Round 11	J. Plummer (DEN)	L. Jordan (OAK)	S. Jackson (STL)	J. Jones (DAL)	New York Jets	A. Boldin (ARI)	C. Palmer (CIN)	M. Bulger (STL)
Round 12	K. Barlow (SFO)	K. Johnson (DAL)	W. Dunn (ATL)	P. Burress (NYG)	N. Goings (CAR)	J. Wiggins (MIN)	S. Janikowski (OAK)	E. Johnson (SFO)
Round 13	M. Robinson (MIN)	F. Taylor (JAC)	B. Roethlisberger (PIT)	Atlanta	T.J. Houshmandzadeh (CIN)	S. Smith (CAR)	D. Graham (NWE)	R. Brown (MIA)
Round 14	Denver	C. Chambers (MIA)	K. McCardell (SDG)	R. Longwell (GNB)	R. McMichael (MIA)	S. Graham (CIN)	D. Branch (NWE)	Washington
Round 15	D. Patten (WAS)	J. Reed (PIT)	S. McNair (TEN)	D. Clark (IND)	T. Pinkston (PHI)	D. Stallworth (NOR)	Oakland	A. Randle El (PIT)